

COUNTY OF STIRLING.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

FOURTH

ANNUAL REPORT

On Medical Inspection of
School Children.

YEAR 1913-14.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY OF STIRLING.

Medical Inspection Staff.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

THOMAS ADAM, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTORS.

A. JOSEPHINE GARDNER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JOHN S. FINDLAY, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.

JOHN T. PRANGNELL, M.D., D.P.H. (Part Time).

SCHOOL NURSES.

HELEN D. GIBSON.

ADRA S. MACKENZIE.

OCULISTS (Part Time).

JOHN GILCHRIST, M.D., 316 BATH STREET, GLASGOW.

JOHN B. STEWART, M.B., Ch.B., 20 CHARING CROSS
MANSIONS, GLASGOW.

STIRLING :

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COUNTY OF STIRLING.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT ON MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1913-14.

COUNTY BUILDINGS,
STIRLING, 30th November, 1914.

THIS REPORT ON SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION IN STIRLING-SHIRE deals with the period from August, 1913, to the end of July, 1914.

As was noted in last year's Report, Dr. Grahame H. Skinner left the service at the beginning of August, 1913, and was succeeded by Dr. John S. Findlay.

The three School Medical Inspectors who carried through the work of inspection in the 92 schools of the County are Dr. A. Josephine Gardner, Dr. John S. Findlay, and Dr. J. T. Prangnell, of whom the two first-named are whole-time inspectors, while the latter is engaged part time.

The allocation of the schools in the County to the three Medical Inspectors is shown in the following table :—

School Medical Inspector.	School Board.	Schools.
Dr. A. Josephine Gardner.	Airth.	Airth, South Alloa, Dunmore.
	Denny.	Denny, Lawhill, Denny R.C.
	Dunipace.	Dunipace, Torwood.
	Fintry.	Fintry.
	Gargunnoch.	Gargunnoch.
	Kippen.	Arnprior, Buchlyvie, Kippen.
	Larbort.	Carron, Carronshoro, Central, Village.
	Logie.	Bridge of Allan, Causowayhead.
	Muiravonside.	Blackbraes, Drumbowio, Maddiston, Muiravonside.
	St. Ninians.	Bannockburn, Cambusbarron, Cowie, East Plean, Fallin, Milton, Muirland, West Plean, St. Mary's R.C., Sauchie (Female).
	Stirling.	Abbey, Allan's, Craigs, High, Junior High, St. Ninians, Territorial, Episcopal, St. Mary's R.C.

School Medical Inspector.	School Board.	Schools.
Dr. John S. Findlay.	Baldernock.	Baldernock.
	Balfron.	Balfron.
	Buchanan.	Buchanan, Inversnaid, Sallochty.
	Campsie.	Craighead, Campsie Glen, Lennoxtown, Torrance, St. Machan's R.C.
	Denny.	Dennyloanhead, Longcroft.
	Drymen.	Auchentroig, Drymen, Finniech.
	Falkirk (Landward).	Auchengean, Bonnybridge, Broomhill Infant, Greenhill, Laurieston.
Dr. J. T. Prangnell.	Grangemouth.	Bothkennar, Dundas, Grange, Grange H.G., Infant, Polmont, Redding Village, Shieldhill, Redding Public, Wallacestone, Zetland, Sacred Heart R.C.
	Killearn.	Killearn.
	Kilsyth (Burgh).	The Academy, R.C. School.
	Kilsyth (Landward).	Banknock, Banton, Chapelgreen.
	Slamannan.	Avonbridge, Limerigg, Rosemount, Slamannan, Barnsmuir.
	Strathblane.	Strathblane.
	Falkirk (Burgh).	Bainsford, Camelon, Carmuir, Central, Comely Park, High, Junior High, Northern, Victoria, St. Francis R.C.

It will be noticed that the above differs somewhat from the corresponding table in last Annual Report. As a result of experience it was considered that time would be saved in travelling by transferring certain schools from Dr. Findlay's charge to Dr. Gardner's, and vice versa. After full consideration, the Committee approved of the suggested changes, which were as follows :—

SCHOOLS TRANSFERRED.

(a) To Dr. Findlay
(resident in Glasgow).

(b) To Dr. Gardner
(resident in Stirling).

Schools.	No. of Pupils.	Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Kilsyth R.C., ...	342	Airth, ...	173
Banknock, ...	168	South Alloa, ...	61
Banton, ...	162	Dunmore, ...	50
Longcroft, ...	443	Blackbraes, ...	391
Dennyloanhead, ...	199	Drumbowie, ...	493
		Maddiston (Infants), ...	84
		Muiravonside, ...	197
Total, ...	1314	Total, ...	1449

The Committee agreed that Stirling is the most convenient centre for the one area, and in consideration (1) of the scattered nature of the other area, and (2) of the splendid train service from Glasgow, it was felt that that City afforded the most convenient centre of work for the Medical Inspector of the other area.

The work has consisted of (1) the medical examination of the children of four prescribed routine age-groups, as described in the reports of former years, and (2) many non-routine examinations, (i.e.) examinations of children not of any of the prescribed ages, but who, because of some known or supposed defect, came under the School Medical Inspector's examination. The following table shows the number of children examined and the approximate time occupied.

Inspector.	Routine Examina- tion.	Non- Routine Examina- tion.	Time Occupied.
Dr. A. J. Gardner, ...	5411	970	720 hours.
Dr. John S. Findlay, ...	4172	774	655 „
Dr. J. T. Prangnell, ...	2908	406	354 „
Total for County, ...	12,491	2150	1729 „

Average number of children examined per hour—8.

Average time taken to examination of each child—7 minutes.

The above averages remain wonderfully constant from year to year. There have, however, been 89 more hours spent in the work as compared with the preceding year, and the routine and non-routine examinations recorded are in excess to the extent of 261 and 200 respectively.

It will be noticed that of the two full-time Inspectors, Dr. Gardner has done the more examinations, and has spent more time in the actual work. The reason is that Dr. Gardner's area is relatively compact, the schools mostly fairly large and relatively easy of access, while Dr. Findlay's area is extensive, the scholars less numerous, and many of the schools small and relatively inaccessible. The result is that more of Dr. Findlay's time has of necessity to be spent in travelling.

The figures in connection with the work of School Medical Inspection for the County as a whole are given in Tables I. to V. inclusive.

As each of the School Medical Inspectors goes very fully into the figures relating to his or her own area, I have thought it well at this time not to deal further with the figures, but

rather to dwell on what has been, and is being done with regard to School Medical Treatment.

Up till the beginning of this year, Nurse Gibson was the only full-time nurse, but the Committee had a call on the services of several local nurses. As medical treatment became more general throughout the County, the Committee decided to appoint a second whole-time nurse and to dispense with the services of all the part-time nurses, with the exception of Nurse Molloy of Stirling. The second whole-time appointment was given to Nurse Mackenzie.

Medical Treatment has added enormously to the work of the Medical Inspection Department, but it is so essentially a complement of medical inspection that the extra labour is not grudged.

Throughout the year the School Medical Inspectors specially reported to the Central Department the names of children who were in urgent need of medical treatment and whose parents seemed dilatory in getting such treatment for them. These parents were all visited by the nurses, in some cases many visits were necessary, but ultimately, practically all cases had received some attention, or were to receive attention at a suitable time, so that in very few cases indeed was it necessary to report the names to the various School Boards. The following cases were, however, reported :—Larbert Board, 1 child suffering from adenoids and 1 from defective vision; St. Ninians Board, 1 child suffering from enlarged tonsils, and 1 from enlarged tonsils, ear disease and anaemia; Falkirk Burgh Board, 2 children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, 1 from enlarged tonsils, adenoids and spinal curvature, and 1 from wry neck and spinal curvature; Falkirk Landward Board, 1 child suffering from cleft palate; Denny Board, 1 child suffering from enlarged tonsils; and Stirling Burgh Board, 1 child suffering from adenoids and hernia, and 7 requiring immediate attention to their teeth.

There were in addition to these several children with defective vision, but they were waiting visits by the oculists, and would be attended to early in the next session.

St. Ninians Board replied that the cases reported to them had received attention. Probably there was a like result in the case of the other Boards, but I did not receive a report from them.

The above record of treatment is to be regarded with very great satisfaction. It means that practically all cases reported as requiring treatment were satisfactorily dealt with.

The difficulties of administration have been the greater owing to the fact that the School Board is the local authority for the purposes of medical treatment. In order to get over the difficulty of having to deal with the Clerks of twenty-three

School Boards, and also because of the smallness both of the area and of the number of pupils of some of the Boards, the County Medical Officer advocated that the Boards should either combine themselves to form Medical Treatment Committees, or should delegate their powers to the Secondary Education Committees for that purpose.

After a great deal of trouble, mostly on the part of Mr Marshall, the Organizing Secretary, and myself, some Boards took up the matter on their own account ; some again formed a Joint Medical Treatment Committee ; while the others are still giving the matter their consideration.

It should in fairness be stated that some time prior to this the Stirling Burgh School Board and the St. Ninians Parish School Board had jointly considered the question of medical treatment, first of all giving their attention to the correction of defective vision. An agreement was made with a skilled oculist for occasional visits, and undoubtedly good work is done. This combination lately considered the question of dental treatment, and such treatment is now being given to children in the age-group 6 to 8 years. Arrangements have been made by which children from the schools of some adjacent Boards have been admitted to the benefits of the combination at an extra charge of 1/- per child sent, to help to repay the Stirling Board for their trouble and expense. Thus, children from the School Boards of Logie Parish, Kippen Parish, Balfron Parish, and even Fintry Parish, have been treated at the Stirling centre.

However, the Falkirk and District Joint Treatment Committee constitutes the largest combination of School Boards in the County for the purposes of medical treatment. The Boards included are—Falkirk (Burgh), Falkirk (Landward), Airth, Grangemouth, Denny, Dunipace, Larbert and Muiravonside, and the aggregate number of children on the roll of these Boards is nearly 18,000.

The part-time Oculist for this Joint Committee is Dr. Gilechrist of Glasgow, and two part-time Dentists have just been appointed to begin dental treatment on the children aged 6 to 8 years. The money to be spent on dental treatment, however, is so small as to permit of only a comparatively small number of even this restricted age-group being treated. In reporting on the question of dental treatment, I fully informed the Committee of the magnitude of the task, but it was thought well to make a beginning, although only the fringe of the dental problem could be touched.

While the chief duty of the School Nurses is to visit and advise parents at the homes of children whose names are supplied to them by me, they have also been of very great assistance to the oculists in their work. Of late also a good

deal of the nurses' time has been absorbed in connection with the recently instituted dental treatment. Their sphere of usefulness is widening, and as School Medical Treatment is undoubtedly becoming more general, there will arise the question of how long they, unaided, will be able to cope successfully with the work.

When the Falkirk and District Joint Committee was formed, both the Muiravonside Board and the Slamannan Board held aloof. Later, however, the Muiravonside Board asked to be admitted to the combination. As Falkirk is not a very convenient centre for the Slamannan district, the Slamannan Board formulated a scheme of Medical Treatment for themselves.

The Kilsyth Burgh Board appointed Dr. Stewart as part-time oculist shortly after the announcement of the Grant in aid of Medical Treatment.

The Campsie School Board followed on similar lines, and appointed Dr. Gilchrist as their part-time oculist.

So far as the other School Boards in the Western District are concerned, the results have been very disappointing. Mr. Marshall and I have repeatedly met representatives from these Boards, but here there are special difficulties. In the first place, the only areas that may be termed comparatively populous are Kilsyth and Campsie, but the School Boards there had already formulated schemes for themselves. The areas of the other Boards are sparsely populated, and the practical difficulties of a scheme of school medical treatment would seem to vary inversely as the density of the population.

Efforts were made to induce the Campsie School Board to join with the others, but without avail. Things were rendered more awkward still by the refusal of Balfron School Board to consider the question of medical treatment at all, and by the lukewarmness of another Board which adopted what might be termed a non-committal attitude.

The latest phase is that Mr. Marshall has been requested to communicate with the Clerks to the Parish School Boards of Kippen, Aberfoyle, and Gartmore, although the two latter are in Perthshire, to ascertain if they would be willing to combine with the Boards of the Western District of Stirlingshire.

The arrangements for medical treatment in Stirlingshire have been described very fully to illustrate some of the many administrative difficulties which are inseparably associated with the system by which the School Board is the Local Authority. There are too many loose ends for proper administration. The success attending the work cannot be commensurate with the efforts of the officials, nor can there be desirable uniformity, until the areas of the various School Boards are grouped to form one district within which School Medical Treatment can be administered by a Central Authority.

Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913.

Work under the above Act is closely associated with the work of School Medical Inspection, of which again the logical outcome is School Medical Treatment. To one actively engaged in work under all three headings, there is very apparent need for co-ordination. At present the three may be, and very often are, administered by different bodies, resulting in a squandering of administrative effort.

What is happening at present under the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913? As a rule, action under this Act begins as a result of the School Medical Inspector's Report that such and such a child is incapable of receiving proper benefit from instruction in an ordinary elementary school. The School Medical Officer transmits such a report to the School Board concerned. It then devolves on the School Board to have the child medically examined and certified as (a) Idiot, (b) Imbecile, (c) Feeble-minded, or (d) Moral Imbecile, these being the four categories into which all mentally defective children under the Act are classified.

If a child comes under (a) or (b), then he falls to be dealt with by the Parish Council, if under (c) or (d) then it lies with the School Board, as the Local Authority, to see that the parents or guardians provide for his education, if they are in a position to do so; if, however, the parents or guardians are unable, then the duty of providing education for the child falls on the School Board.

Take the case of a child classified under (b) in Stirlingshire. He is imbecile, and in most cases will be sent by the Parish Council to the Scottish National Institution for the Education of Imbecile Children.

Again take the case of another child classified under (c). He is feeble-minded, and therefore, for educational purposes, comes under the care of the School Board. At present there is no proper school in Stirlingshire for receiving such children, so that in the meantime School Boards are constrained to have them sent to the same Institution as that provided for imbecile children. It appears to me that the adoption of such a course inflicts a fearful injustice on children merely feeble-minded.

It might be argued, of course, that provision could be made for having two divisions, one for imbecile children, and the other for feeble-minded. Still, the provision of two divisions in an Institution would not meet the difficulty.

Feeble-mindedness and imbecility are of very varying degree, and the one grades into the other, but, as I conceive it, the broad distinction is that in the case of the feeble-minded child there is a reasonable probability that, given proper oppor-

tunity, he is capable of being educated to such an extent as to become a comparatively useful citizen, while in the case of the imbecile child there is no such probability. With regard to the development of the consciousness of social responsibility, there is to be anticipated in the two classes a very different degree of development : the imbecile indeed may hardly rise to such consciousness at all.

The Scottish National Institution for the Education of Imbecile Children does excellent work, but if there are good reasons why feeble-minded children should not attend the ordinary elementary schools, still more urgent reasons exist why the feeble-minded should not be sent to the same Institutions as are the imbecile. Experience shows that residence in such Institutions attaches a lasting stigma to the child and adds a mental tarnish to the family, which ought to be avoided by providing special schools for the feeble-minded.

At present such special schools are few and far between. Not many School Boards are sufficiently large to provide proper facilities for the education of their feeble-minded scholars. In most cases the County would be a suitable unit for such a school, and this might readily be undertaken, under suitable arrangements, by such a Committee as the County Secondary Education Committee.

There can be no doubt that by co-ordinating under one authority, with a sufficiently large area, the work of School Medical Inspection, School Medical Treatment, and work under the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913, there would be a great gain in efficiency and probably in economy.

THOMAS ADAM,
School Medical Officer.

TABLE I.—ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1913-14.

BOYS.

CONDITIONS FOUND.	5 AGE GROUP		7 AGE GROUP.		10 AGE GROUP		13 AGE GROUP.		TOTAL COMBINED AGES.	
	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.
No. Examined;	1711	...	1682	...	1611	...	1379	...	6383	...
*Poorly Nourished, ...	50	2.9	52	3.1	61	3.8	38	2.7	201	3.2
Verminous Head, ...	19	1.1	5	.3	3	.2	7	.5	34	.5
Dirty Body, ...	12	.7	13	.8	8	.5	17	1.2	50	.8
Carious Teeth, { 1-4, ...	856	50.5	938	55.3	919	57.0	900	65.7	3613	57.8
{ *5-8, ...	380	22.4	437	25.8	245	15.2	143	10.4	1205	19.3
{ *9 and over, ...	61	3.6	34	2.0	6	.4	3	.2	104	1.6
*Mouth Breathing, ...	5	.3	7	.4	11	.7	2	.1	25	.4
*Enlarged Tonsils, ...	224	13.2	262	15.5	182	11.2	150	10.9	818	13.1
*Adenoids, ...	18	1.0	31	1.8	26	1.6	9	.7	84	1.3
*Enlarged Glands, ...	259	15.3	437	25.8	329	20.4	113	8.2	1138	18.2
*External Eye Disease, ...	63	3.7	81	4.8	55	3.4	32	2.3	231	3.7
*Defective Vision { One Eye, ...	Not examined.		161	9.5	167	10.4	127	9.3	455	8.7
{ Both Eyes, ...			165	9.7	134	8.3	103	7.5	402	7.7
*Ear Disease, ...	14	.8	26	1.6	25	1.5	24	1.7	89	1.4
*Defective Hearing, ...	1	.06	25	1.5	26	1.6	18	1.3	70	1.1
*Defective Speech, ...	21	1.2	17	1.0	30	1.9	22	1.6	90	1.4
*Mentally Defective, ...	1	.06	2	.1	1	.06	5	.4	9	.14
*Abnormal Condition of Heart, ...	36	2.1	38	2.2	29	1.8	21	1.5	124	1.9
*Abnormal Condition of Lungs, ...	77	4.5	70	4.1	24	1.4	5	.4	176	2.8
*Chorea, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
*Other Nervous Diseases, ...	7	.4	4	.2	3	.2	7	.5	21	.3
*Tuberculosis { Pulmonary, ...	...	...	1	.06	...	...	1	.07	2	.03
{ Other Forms, ...	1	.06	10	.6	11	.7	5	.4	27	.4
*Rickets, ...	24	1.4	17	1.0	10	.6	3	.2	54	.8
*Deformities, ...	43	2.5	84	4.9	67	4.2	22	1.6	216	3.5
*Skin Diseases, ...	34	2.0	32	1.9	22	1.4	7	.5	95	1.5
*Infectious Diseases, ...	2	.1	3	.18	1	.06	...	...	6	.09
*Anæmia, ...	15	.9	14	.8	7	.4	1	.07	37	.6
*All other Diseases and Defects, ...	46	2.7	39	2.3	30	1.9	24	1.7	139	2.2
Unvaccinated Children, ...	475	28.0	104	6.1	67	4.2	81	5.9	727	11.6
Mothers Employed Away, ...	32	1.9	25	1.5	35	2.2	32	2.3	125	2.0
Children Employed, ...	...	...	...	...	38	2.4	187	13.7	225	3.6
Clothing—Not Satisfactory, ...	31	1.8	32	1.9	25	1.5	18	1.3	106	1.7
Footgear—Not Satisfactory, ...	29	1.7	23	1.3	21	1.3	12	.9	85	1.3
Parents Present, ...	226	13.3	118	7.0	49	3.1	21	1.5	414	6.6
Consumption in Family, ...	15	.9	13	.8	24	1.4	16	1.1	68	1.08
Already under Medical Attention, ...	24	1.4	24	1.4	21	1.3	9	.7	78	1.2
No. of Defective Children (<i>i.e.</i> , with conditions marked thus *), ...	915	54.0	1137	67.1	963	59.7	626	45.7	3641	58.3

TABLE II.—ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1913-14.

GIRLS.

CONDITIONS FOUND.	5 AGE GROUP		7 AGE GROUP.		10 AGE GROUP		13 AGE GROUP.		TOTAL COMBINED AGES.	
	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.	No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.
No. Examined, ...	1568	...	1669	...	1545	...	1326	...	6108	...
*Poorly Nourished, ...	43	2.7	70	4.1	77	5.0	27	2.0	217	3.5
Vermineous Head, ...	42	2.6	23	1.3	17	1.1	23	1.7	105	1.7
Dirty Body, ...	11	.7	15	.9	15	1.0	13	1.0	54	.8
Carious Teeth { 1-4, ...	808	51.7	944	55.7	1011	65.7	851	63.8	3614	57.8
*5-8, ...	341	21.8	417	24.6	222	14.4	197	14.8	1177	18.8
*9 and over, ...	42	2.6	39	2.3	12	.8	8	.6	101	1.6
*Mouth Breathing, ...	1	.06	7	.4	4	.3	1	.08	13	.2
*Enlarged Tonsils, ...	219	14.0	234	13.8	231	15.0	192	14.4	876	14.0
*Adenoids, ...	12	.8	25	1.5	11	.7	15	1.1	63	1.0
*Enlarged Glands, ...	233	14.9	408	24.1	328	21.3	94	7.1	1063	17.0
*External Eye Diseases, ...	65	4.1	68	4.0	70	4.5	37	2.8	240	3.8
*Defective Vision { One Eye, ...	Not		182	10.7	146	11.3	143	10.7	471	10.4
{ Both Eyes, ...	Examined.		193	11.4	169	10.9	162	12.2	524	11.5
*Ear Disease, ...	11	.7	14	.8	21	1.4	11	.8	57	.8
*Defective Hearing, ...	3	.2	25	1.5	20	1.3	13	1.0	61	.9
*Defective Speech, ...	6	.4	10	.6	7	.5	15	1.1	38	.6
*Mentally Defective, ...	...	...	...	...	6	.4	1	.08	7	.1
*Abnormal Condition of Heart, ...	15	1.0	40	2.4	20	1.3	31	2.3	106	1.7
*Abnormal Condition of Lungs, ...	48	3.0	52	3.1	19	1.2	4	.3	123	1.9
*Chorea, ...	...	...	3	.18	1	.06	...	...	4	.06
*Other Nervous Diseases, ...	6	.06	9	.6	9	.6	4	.3	28	.4
*Tuberculosis { Pulmonary, ...	1	.4	4	.2	2	.1	...	...	7	.1
{ Other Forms, ...	9	.57	4	.2	8	.5	4	.3	25	.4
*Rickets, ...	12	.8	16	.9	3	.2	6	.45	37	.8
*Deformities, ...	21	1.3	47	2.8	30	1.9	39	2.25	128	2.1
*Skin Diseases, ...	31	1.9	22	1.2	14	.9	11	.8	78	1.2
*Infectious Diseases, ...	5	.3	2	.1	1	.06	...	...	8	.1
*Anemia, ...	12	.8	7	.4	10	.65	10	.75	39	.6
*All other Diseases or Defects, ...	53	3.4	29	1.7	31	2.0	28	2.1	141	2.3
Unvaccinated Children, ...	422	27.0	128	7.5	61	3.9	69	5.2	680	10.9
Mothers Employed Away, ...	29	1.8	28	1.65	37	2.4	31	2.3	125	2.0
Children Employed, ...	...	...	...	...	11	.7	41	3.1	52	.8
Clothing—Not Satisfactory, ...	18	1.1	20	1.1	14	.9	7	.5	59	.9
Footgear—Not Satisfactory, ...	9	.57	18	1.0	11	.7	7	.5	45	.8
Parents Present, ...	248	15.9	144	8.5	96	6.2	27	2.0	515	9.8
Consumption in Family, ...	10	.6	22	1.2	19	1.2	14	1.05	65	1.0
Already under Medical Attention, ...	26	1.7	27	1.6	26	1.7	15	1.1	94	1.5
No. of Defective Children (i.e., with conditions marked thus *), ...	809	51.8	1122	65.2	916	59.5	714	53.6	3561	57.0

TABLE III.—ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1913-14.

TOTAL COMBINED AGES AND SEXES.					No. of Children.	Ratio per cent.
CONDITIONS FOUND.						
No. Examined,	...	...	...	...	12491	...
*Poorly Nourished,	...	...	...	...	418	3.3
Verminous Head,	...	...	...	...	139	1.1
Dirty Body,	...	...	...	...	104	.8
Carious Teeth	{	1-4,	...	...	7227	57.8
		*5-8,	...	...	2382	19.1
		*9 and over,	...	...	205	1.6
*Mouth Breathing,	...	...	...	...	38	.3
*Enlarged Tonsils,	...	...	...	...	1694	13.6
*Adenoids,	...	...	...	...	147	1.2
*Enlarged Glands,	...	...	...	...	2201	17.6
*External Eye Disease,	...	...	...	...	471	3.8
*Defective Vision	{	One Eye,	...	...	926	10.1
		Both Eyes,	...	...	926	10.1
*Ear Disease,	...	...	...	...	146	1.2
*Defective Hearing,	...	...	...	...	131	1.0
*Defective Speech,	...	...	...	...	128	1.0
*Mentally Defective,	...	...	...	...	16	.1
*Abnormal Condition of Heart,	...	...	...	...	230	1.8
*Abnormal Condition of Lungs,	...	...	...	...	299	2.4
*Chorea,	...	...	...	...	4	.03
*Other Nervous Diseases,	...	...	...	...	49	.4
*Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary,	...	...	9	.07
		Other Forms,	...	...	52	.4
*Rickets,	...	...	...	...	91	.72
*Deformities,	...	...	...	...	344	2.75
*Skin Diseases,	...	...	...	...	174	1.4
*Infectious Diseases,	...	...	...	...	14	.1
*Anæmia,	...	...	...	...	76	.6
*All other Diseases or Defects,	...	...	...	...	280	2.2
Unvaccinated Children,	...	...	...	...	1407	11.3
Mothers Employed Away,	...	...	...	...	250	2.0
Children Employed,	...	...	...	...	277	2.2
Clothing—Not Satisfactory,	...	...	...	...	165	1.3
Footgear—Not Satisfactory,	...	...	...	...	130	1.0
Parents Present,	...	...	...	...	929	7.4
Consumption in Family,	...	...	...	...	133	1.1
Already under Medical Attention,	...	...	...	...	172	1.4
No. of Defective Children (<i>i.e.</i> , with conditions marked thus *),	...	...	...	...	7202	57.6

TABLE IV.—ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF NON-ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1913-14.

CONDITIONS FOUND.						No. of Children.
No. Examined,	...	...	...	...	...	2150
No. Entered on Card,	...	...	...	...	...	902
*Poorly Nourished,	...	...	...	...	...	9
Verminous Head,	...	...	...	...	...	72
Dirty or Verminous Body,	...	...	...	...	...	93
*Carious Teeth (4 and over),	...	...	...	...	...	3
*Mouth Breathing,	...	...	...	...	...	1
*Enlarged Tonsils,	...	...	...	...	...	38
*Tonsilitis,	...	...	...	...	...	3
*Adenoids,	...	...	...	...	...	25
*Enlarged Glands,	...	...	...	...	...	2
*Other Defects of Nose and Throat,	...	...	...	...	...	22
*External Eye Disease,	...	...	...	...	...	139
*Defective Vision (One Eye),	...	...	...	...	...	31
*Defective Vision (Both Eyes),	...	...	...	...	...	223
*Ear Disease,	...	...	...	...	...	61
*Defective Hearing,	...	...	...	...	...	65
*Defective Speech,	...	...	...	...	...	6
*Mentally Defective,	...	...	...	...	...	24
*Abnormal Condition of Heart,	...	...	...	...	...	14
*Abnormal Condition of Lungs,	...	...	...	...	...	12
*Chorea,	...	...	...	...	...	3
*Other Nervous Diseases,	...	...	...	...	...	15
*Tuberculosis (Pulmonary),	...	...	...	...	...	9
*Tuberculosis (Other Forms),	...	...	...	...	...	14
*Rickets,	...	...	...	...	...	2
*Deformities,	...	...	...	...	...	16
*Skin Diseases,	...	...	...	...	...	72
*Infectious Diseases,	...	...	...	...	...	7
*Anæmia,	...	...	...	...	...	6
*General Debility,	...	...	...	...	...	14
*All other Diseases or Defects,	...	...	...	...	...	63
Parents Present,	...	...	...	...	...	12
Already under Medical Attention,	...	...	...	...	...	70
Clothing—Not Satisfactory,	...	...	...	...	...	29
Footgear—Not Satisfactory,	...	...	...	...	...	1
Notices Issued :—						
M.T. Forms,	...	...	...	...	...	407
Card A,	...	...	...	...	...	69
„ B,	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ C,	...	...	...	...	...	62
„ D,	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ E,	...	...	...	...	...	22
„ F,	...	...	...	...	...	2

TABLE V.—Height in Inches.

				Age 5	Age 7	Age 10	Age 13
Boys—Stirlingshire	...	...		41·8	46·1	51·7	56·7
Boys—Standard	...	...		41·0	46·0	51·8	56·9
Girls—Stirlingshire	...	...		41·4	45·1	51·2	57·3
Girls—Standard,	...	...		40·8	44·5	51·1	57·8
Weight in Pounds (Avoirdupois).							
Boys—Stirlingshire	...	...		41·3	49·0	64·1	81·4
Boys—Standard	...	...		39·9	49·7	67·5	82·6
Girls—Stirlingshire	...	...		39·9	47·3	63·9	84·0
Girls—Standard	...	...		39·6	46·7	62·0	87·0

REPORT BY DR. GARDNER.

The examinations were conducted on lines similar to those of last year.

Number of Visits to Schools and Departments.—There are in all 41 schools under my care, at each of which routine medical inspection has been carried out twice during the year. The routine inspection at some of the larger schools occupied several days, whereas the routine inspection of a few of the smaller schools was completed in one session. In addition to the routine inspections, a large number of visits were paid to the schools for non-routine inspection. This comprised follow-up work, entailing 41 visits, also 26 visits in connection with the detection of infectious disease, 23 surprise visits to examine verminous children, and 7 other visits in connection with children alleged to be mentally defective.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXAMINED.

Boys—Entrants aged 5 and 6,	...	...	...	...	...	788
Girls—do.,	...	...	...	...	...	714
Boys—Junior aged 7,	...	...	...	...	...	746
Girls—do.,	...	...	...	...	...	706
Boys—Junior aged 10,	...	...	...	...	...	682
Girls—do.,	...	...	...	...	...	660
Boys—Senior aged 13,	...	...	...	...	...	571
Girls—do.,	...	...	...	...	...	544
Total,						5411
Boys and Girls (Non-Routine)—All Ages,						970
Grand Total,						6381

The total number of children examined last session was 6260, the number of routine examinations being 5528, and of non-routine examinations 732.

Clothing.—The clothing of 633 of the children was not in a satisfactory condition, 63 of these having very ragged clothing. The most neglected children are those aged 5 and 6 years, those of 10 and 13 years being able to keep themselves more clean and tidy. There were 553 fairly clean, and 98 were very dirty. The clothing of boys at all ages is more dirty than is that of the girls, who generally wear pinafores which are often washed, whereas a boy wears the same suit for months until it is sometimes very greasy, dirty and ragged.

Last year there were 122 very ragged, and this year only 63, which indicates an improvement. In some schools a great improvement is manifest. Teachers know a difference in the appearance of the children. They are cleaner in clothing and person, and their heads and bodies show signs of care and attention on the mother's part. But yet there is a great deal to be done to educate parents up to a proper standard of cleanliness and tidy clothing. If mothers would take off half of the ragged garments they load their children with, and give each child a set of whole clean woollen garments, it would be more economical in the end, and besides, by having a change of underclothing for each child, the mothers would save themselves much labour in sewing, washing and mending.

Footgear shows an improvement. Eleven children were barefooted in winter, and several were absent from school because they had no boots. Thirty-seven had boots which were very bad, and 179 wore boots in various stages of disrepair.

Previous Medical History.—This history is given by the parents, and is not always quite accurate, as parents are sometimes uncertain as to a child's former history. Out of 1502 entrants, 895 have had measles, whilst 910 out of 1115 leavers have had it. This would indicate that in this district every year about 600 children enter school without having had measles, whilst only 200 leave school still unattacked. Mothers are still very careless about measles, and do not treat it with sufficient dread. One day last winter a child of about two years old was seen sitting on a cold, wet doorstep with all the symptoms of measles, the swollen face with running eyes and nose, and the legs, face, and arms covered with a rash. Such a child was exposed to the grave risk of contracting an attack of pneumonia.

Rheumatism still has many child victims, boys and girls apparently being equally susceptible.

Work Before and After School.—Twenty-five girls and 97 boys aged 13 years work as messengers, whilst 15 boys and 5 girls aged 10 years carry milk or deliver papers out of school hours.

Nutrition.—The nutrition of the children was fairly good. The following table shows the results of examination :—

Age	Boys			Girls		
	Good	Medium	Bad	Good	Medium	Bad
5	501	255	32	387	298	29
7	422	288	36	307	342	57
10	280	359	43	214	385	61
13	360	189	22	367	160	17
Total	1563	1091	133	1275	1185	164
Total Boys—2787.				Total Girls—2624.		

The percentage of children with nutrition above the average was 56 per cent. boys and 48 per cent. girls, these figures being slightly lower than those of last year. Those children whose nutrition was bad number 133 boys and 164 girls, giving a percentage of 4·7 boys, and 6·2 girls. This percentage is very similar to last year's, excepting that the girls show slight improvement.

Taking the table of height and weight,

Height in Inches.

	Age 5	Age 7	Age 10	Age 13
Boys—Stirlingshire, ...	42·13	46·1	51·5	56·7
Boys—Standard, ...	41·0	46·0	51·8	56·9
Girls—Stirlingshire, ...	41·0	45·9	51·3	57·6
Girls—Standard, ...	40·8	44·5	51·1	57·8

Weight in Pounds.

	Age 5	Age 7	Age 10	Age 13
Boys—Stirlingshire, ...	42·22	49·1	64·1	81·8
Boys—Standard, ...	39·9	49·7	67·5	82·6
Girls—Stirlingshire, ...	40·51	47·8	62·3	84·6
Girls—Standard, ...	39·6	46·7	62·0	87·0

Again the 10-year-old boys fall below the standard, not much in height, but more so in weight. In the four years that medical inspection has been carried out, this age group falls below the standard in weight. In several schools the weight of the ten-year-old boys is much below normal, and many of these boys do not breathe properly. When asked to "breathe in" they generally open the mouth, and take the breath in by the mouth instead of through the nose. Their chest expansion is deficient, and consequently the lungs are not properly aerated, and the whole body suffers. In schools where a specialist in gymnastics is appointed, one very seldom gets mouth breathing (unless there is mechanical obstruction), but in other schools where the drill is not supervised by a special drill instructor, the breathing is usually very faulty. Little ones often stand on the toes and raise the whole body, instead of raising the chest wall alone, and unless the teacher actually feels the sides of their chest expanding she cannot be sure that the child is breathing properly. In a county school a mother brought her child to have his chest thoroughly examined, as she was "afraid he was consumptive." The child was stripped to the waist and was asked to "take a long breath." Immediately the mother intervened and said: "Open your mouth, Johnnie, and pull your breath in." She was much astonished when she was told that he should breathe through his nose and keep his mouth closed.

Cleanliness of Head and Body.—There is a marked improvement in the cleanliness of the children this year. In several large schools no actual vermin were found on routine inspection, although at surprise visits some were discovered. The parents are evidently coming to realise that verminous or dirty children will not be tolerated in school. Nurse Gibson's and Nurse Molloy's registers contain the names of several families who always are on the list, as, if not regularly visited, they soon relapse into their former state of uncleanness.

On looking over the table compiled from the nurses' registers, one finds that although the actual number, 246, is not much lower than last year, when the number was 323, still the children were not so dirty; and very few had to be reported to their School Boards. There were only 30 children reported (one family was reported twice), whereas last year 60 children were reported (10 of them three times). The 80 children in the improved column were never quite clean, and will go on the registers next year, and be kept under observation.

VERMINOUS CHILDREN.

District.	No. of Children	No. of Visits	No. Cleansed	No. Improved	Reported to Board.	
					Children	Families
Airth, ...	13	65	10	3	6	2
Denny, ...	13	26	5	8	...	...
Dunipace, ...	10	5	8	2	...	...
Kippen, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fintry, ...	2	2	2	...	...	...
Gargunnoch, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Larbert, ...	57	220	38	19	6	3
Logie, ...	4	6	4	...	4	1
Muiravonside, ...	17	24	7	10	...	...
St. Ninians, ...	57	203	28	29	2	1
	...	...	...	...	4	1
						(reported twice).
Stirling, ...	73	245	56	9	8	2
						(left).
Total,	246	796	158	80	30	10
Last Year,	323	1218	193	130	60	...
					(10 three times re-reported.	

The improvement in Stirling Burgh is very great. Last year 26 were reported, and this year only two families were sent to the School Board.

One family consisting of four children were very neglected, ragged and underfed; the oldest girl was 13, and looked like a child of seven years. The mother absconded and took her children with her, but the N.S.P.C.C. Officer followed her and took charge of the children, who have now been placed in homes either in this country or abroad.

The other family have now been cleansed and tidied, and will not likely cause any more trouble. The mother had been ill, and the children were in a very verminous state. They were excluded from school, the girls had their hair cut short, and all the family got new clean clothes.

Another family in a mining district was reported. The children were motherless, and a girl of eleven was looking after four of a family. The girl next to her was absent from school for months with abscesses and sores on the head. They were not getting proper food, for the child of eleven could not be expected to cook, wash, mend and clean for a family. All the children were losing weight. One small boy of seven years was only

28 lbs in weight (a healthy baby of two years weighs more than that). He has been away from school a year now. His chest was weak, and, with want of proper nourishment and home neglect, he was unfit to be in school.

The table of cleanliness shows that 1·9 per cent of the boys have nits and ·8 per cent actual head vermin, whilst 43 per cent. of the girls have nits and ·45 actual vermin. There is a slow and gradual improvement in the cleanliness of the girls, both of head and of body.

TABLE OF CLEANLINESS.

			HEAD.				BODY.				
			Medium	Dirty.	Nits	Vermin.	Medium	Dirty.	Vermin.	Flea bitten.	
2787	Boys.										
	5 years	...	109	5	25	14	145	4	10	28	
	7 years	...	63	5	12	4	118	6	4	21	
	10 years	...	74	1	7	2	125	3	5	17	
	13 years	...	62	7	9	4	83	10	—	10	
	Total	...	308	18	53	24	471	23	19	76	
					1.9%	.8%		.8%	.6%	2.7%	
2624	Girls.										
	5 years	...	16	—	269	6	117	6	—	27	
	7 years	...	16	1	329	3	126	6	6	24	
	10 years	...	12	—	320	3	124	8	4	20	
	13 years	...	10	2	232	—	103	9	—	9	
	Total	...	54	3	1150	12	470	29	10	80	
					43.8%	.45%		1.1%	.38%	3.0%	
Grand Total			...	362	21	1203	36	941	52	29	156

Teeth.—The percentage of children with good teeth is exactly similar to last year.

This year Stirling Burgh School Board have appointed a part-time dentist to begin duties after the summer vacation.

When examining the nurse's registers for Stirling Burgh one finds that nearly all defects are remedied or getting treatment, except suppurating teeth or gums, and necrosed roots causing abscesses. These are the only cases where the father

refused to get treatment. Whether it is from pecuniary reasons or from reluctance to allow the child to suffer the pain of extraction, it is difficult to say, but now that a dentist has been provided, parents can have no excuse on the score of expense.

In a county school one child was found with the necrosed root of an upper front tooth burrowing into the upper lip and causing a large ulcer on the inner surface of the lip, whilst the whole face was much swollen. The root was quite slack, and could easily have been removed. The district nurse attended to the boy, and he was soon quite well again.

DENTITION TABLE.

No. Examined.		Good.	Decayed. 1-4	Decayed. 5-8	Decayed. 9 and over.
Boys.					
5 years	788	201	404	173	10
7 years	746	143	434	166	3
10 years	682	278	319	83	2
13 years	571	155	377	38	1
Total	2787	777	1534	460	16
Girls.					
5 years	714	194	386	129	5
7 years	706	123	442	136	5
10 years	660	137	449	70	4
13 years	544	130	357	56	1
Total	2624	584	1634	391	15
Grand Total	5411	1361	3168	851	31
Percentage		25	58	15	·5

Nose and Throat.—Every year there are found a great many children suffering from nasal catarrh of a more or less chronic nature. This ailment is most noticeable in the infant department. In those departments there are 311 children suffering from nasal catarrh, and 40 cases of chronic nasal inflammation. Amongst those over seven years there are only 89 cases.

In the mining centres it is not the rule for the children to have handkerchiefs, and often they are very dirty.

Parents are not now so reluctant to have tonsils or adenoids

removed, as they see the improvement in health effected on other children so treated.

NOSE AND THROAT.

		No. Examin'd	Enl. Ton.	Adenoids	Enl. Glds.
Boys.					
5 years	...	788	131	5	76
7 years	...	746	87	6	60
10 years	...	682	52	5	44
13 years	...	571	55	2	22
Total	...	2787	325	18	202
Girls.					
5 years	...	714	110	7	45
7 years	...	706	88	5	60
10 years	...	660	68	6	35
13 years	...	544	69	2	18
Total	...	2624	335	20	158

External Eye Disease.—Cases of eye disease numbered 244. Squint occurred in 84 cases. Other eye diseases included blepharitis, conjunctivitis, corneal ulcer and corneal opacity.

SQUINT.

No. examined		No. with Squint
Boys—		
5 years,	788	16
7 years,	746	12
10 years,	682	9
13 years,	571	4
Total,	2787	41
Girls—		
5 years,	714	14
7 years,	706	12
10 years,	660	12
13 years,	544	5
Total,	2624	43

Vision.—The same method of testing vision was followed as formerly.

EYES.

	No. exam.	One Eye Defective.	Two Eyes Defective.	Normal.
Boys.				
7 years ...	746	104	59	583
10 years ...	682	91	59	532
13 years ...	571	60	54	457
Total ...	1999	255	172	1572
Percentage		12·7	8·6	78·6
GIRLS.				
7 years ...	706	109	79	518
10 years ...	660	82	71	507
13 years ...	544	73	73	398
Total ...	1910	264	223	1423
Percentage		13·8	11·6	79·7

Nine children aged 5 or 6 years were examined who were suspected to be defective and who were sufficiently advanced to read or at least sound the letters.

Three were defective in one eye.

Six were defective in both eyes.

The question of the provision of spectacles is treated in the part of the report dealing with amelioration of defects.

Ear Defect was present in 56 children, and was due to purulent discharge. Hearing was tabulated as "Medium" in 133 cases and "Bad" in 29 cases.

Speech.—Fifteen cases of stammering were noticed.

Mental Condition.—There were 12 mentally defective children examined this year, nine routine and three non-routine: while 147 children were classed as mentally dull or backward.

In June all the Stirling Burgh Schools were visited in order to notify and report any mentally defective children attending school. Three such were reported.

Heart and Circulation.—One hundred and thirty-two children were found on examination to have some abnormality of the heart.

Lungs.—The number of children with bronchial catarrh was 141, whilst three suffered from asthma, and in 13 there were signs of impairment of the lungs. These children were kept under observation and weighed periodically.

Nervous System.—Eleven children were found suffering from infantile paralysis. Two in Stirling Burgh are wheeled to school in push carts. Eleven other nervous disorders were noted.

Tuberculosis.—The children found suffering from tuberculosis in one form or another numbered 15. Amongst the routine children there were no cases of phthisis, but amongst the non-routines there were five cases and three other forms of tuberculosis.

One child who had a brother in the Victoria Consumptive Hospital, Edinburgh, was himself to be admitted a few days after my examination. Another boy of 14 (just about to leave school) was sent, through the kindness of two ladies, to Bridge of Weir Children's Sanatorium. He was there four months, and made rapid strides towards recovery. He gained 1 stone 4 lbs. in weight. He was discharged with all active signs of the disease in abeyance and with strict instructions to carry on at home similar treatment to that received in hospital.

Rickets.—Sixty children showed signs of rickets, mostly as pigeon chest, knock-knee or bow legs. One child in St. Ninians is wheeled to school, as she cannot walk owing to deformity of the legs.

Other diseases or defects numbered 79, and besides those, there were 17 cases found with enlarged thyroid glands, 11 suffering from rheumatism, and 47 from anaemia.

Skin Diseases.—The children found suffering from skin diseases numbered 75. This year there were more cases of ringworm. Several non-routine visits were paid on account of ringworm, impetigo and itch, and the whole school at East Plean, Cambusbarron, and the infant departments at Bannockburn, Airth and Maddiston schools were thoroughly examined in order to find any missed cases. The following cases of skin diseases were found, the number of children affected being given in each case:—Itch, 9; ringworm, 15; impetigo, 21; eczema, 7; various, 23.

The number of forms issued to parents requesting immediate treatment for some disease or defect was 251; teeth or suppurating gums, 17; verminous head, 26; verminous body or clothes, 22; adenoids or enlarged tonsils, 14; but, as last year, Nurse called on many more, as a visit is found far more efficacious than a written notice.

NURSES' VISITS.

Nurse Pringle, who visited in Logie Parish until March, 1914, paid 39 visits. Nurse Vaughan, who worked in the village of Standburn and surrounding district, paid 380 visits. In March, 1914, Nurse Mackenzie took over their duties along with part of Nurse Gibson's. She paid 110 visits. Nurse Molloy, for Stirling Burgh, paid 520 visits. Nurse Gibson, for the County, paid 1426 visits, making a total of 2056 visits paid in this district during the year.

In Stirling Burgh all cases of enlarged tonsils, adenoids, abnormal heart, ear disease and hernia, have had medical attention, either operation or treatment, with the exception of seven cases, which were brought to the notice of the Board.

Six of these seven cases suffered from carious teeth with abscess formation, and the father of the seventh case refused to have treatment for his boy, who suffered from hernia and adenoids.

The Amelioration Table speaks for itself.

AMELIORATION TABLE.

	Tonsils		Adenoids		Heart		Ear		Various	
	Treated	Nothing done.	Treated	Nothing done	Treated	Nothing done	Treated	Nothing done	Treated	Nothing done
Airth, ...	...	...	1	2	1	...	2	2	31	2
Denny, ...	7	1	...	1	6	2	1	1	25	11
Dunipace, ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Kippen, ...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Finty, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gargunnoch, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Larbert, ...	13	...	4	2	14	...	10	...	19	3
Logie, ...	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	4	1
Muiravonside, ...	1	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	14	1
St. Ninians, ...	3	5	2	2	4	...	6	2	*	19
Stirling, ...	13	5	6	2	13	...	9	1	55	10
									83	7
Total, ...	40	14	16	11	41	2	33	6	236	35
									*	19

* Promised to get treatment.

Fifty-four cases of enlarged tonsils were visited, of which 40 were treated and 14 were not ; and 27 cases of adenoids were visited, of which 16 were treated and 11 were not. All

43 cases of abnormal heart were attended to except two. Of 39 cases of ear disease, 33 were remedied, while 6 were not.

Two hundred and thirty-six cases of various diseases such as bronchitis, suppurating gums, shingles, skin diseases, deformities, malnutrition, etc., were attended to, but in 35 cases no action was taken. From Muiravonside Parish 19 were examined during the last week of the session, and will be treated during the holidays. Of the children suffering from adenoids and enlarged tonsils who have as yet got no treatment, many were merely waiting a suitable opportunity, and did not refuse to have treatment.

AMELIORATION TABLE—DEFECTIVE SIGHT.

	No. requiring treatment		No. treated by eye specialist	No. waiting for eye specialist.	No. who refused to wear glasses, or undergo treatment, or left district without treatment
	Last year	Present year.			
Stirling (Burgh), ...	53	97	63	86	2
St. Ninians Parish, ...	49	44	44	44	5
Kippen Parish, Fintry, and Gargunnoch, ...	1	7	3	...	5*
Logie Parish, ...	12	4	11	...	5
Denny Public and Catholic, and Lawhill, ...	...	10	7	2	1
Dunipace Parish, ...	3	6	7	...	2
Airth Parish, ...	...	8	6	...	2
Larbert Parish, ...	28	42	25	17	28
Muiravonside, ...	17	11	4	11	13†
Total, ...	163	229	170	160	63

* Eye Specialist not appointed.

† Newly appointed.

If one analyses this table, it will be seen that one School Board (Kippen) has not yet appointed an eye specialist. This is the only Board in this part of the Country which has not provided for the services of such a specialist. The other, Muiravonside, area has newly joined the Medical Treatment area of Falkirk, and the children have not yet had an opportunity to visit the oculist. There are two eye-testing centres for this district, one at the High School of Stirling, where the children from Stirling Burgh, St. Ninians Parish, Fintry Parish and Logie Parish are treated, and one at Falkirk High School, where the children from Denny, Dunipace, Airth, Larbert and Muiravonside Parishes are treated. The oculist goes three times a year to Falkirk, and very few children are untreated, except 28 in Larbert area, who are old-standing cases examined 3 or 4 years ago, and whose parents seem to be careless or ignorant, but after this summer session an effort is being made to bring them all to the oculist. It is very essential to have regular visits from the oculist.

Some children do not wear their glasses after they have got them. In one large school I examined seven girls, five of whom required glasses. All the five possessed them, but only one wore them, although the others were very defective indeed, and could not see the blackboard unless sitting in the front seat. In large schools, where the classes are frequently changed, teachers cannot know who should wear glasses, and several times a child has been sent to have the eyes tested, and on questioning the child it has been found that he has glasses, but that they have been left at home. Sometimes they are broken, sometimes lost, but most often when the child is sent home for them the glasses are produced all right. In any case where the lenses do not seem suitable the child is sent up for re-examination by the oculist but surely it is not too much to ask the parents to see that the child wears, at least during school hours, the spectacles provided for him.

Non-Routines.—The number examined was 970, and 324 required immediate medical advice. Of the total number examined, 41 were found in a neglected state, with torn, ragged or insufficient clothing; 17 had verminous heads, and 20 had verminous bodies; 9 were fleabitten; 7 were badly nourished; 2 had suppurating gums; 4 had some defect of the nose or throat; 20 had enlarged tonsils; 4 had adenoids; and 2 had enlarged glands of the neck.

The number of cases of external eye disease found was 39. On testing vision, 13 children had one eye defective and 74 had both eyes defective.

Twenty-one had ear disease, and 10 were very deaf; 3 children were mentally defective; 17 suffered from some abnor-

mal condition of the heart ; 10 had some affection of the lungs ; 3 children suffered from fits ; 2 from chorea ; and one case of infantile paralysis was reported. The phthisis cases have already been referred to.

Of infectious disease, there were 17 cases of measles, 4 of mumps, and 29 of infectious skin diseases. These inspections also revealed 3 cases of anaemia ; 10 cases of general debility ; and 35 cases of various other diseases.

Ninety-six notices for immediate medical treatment were sent, 9 were sent regarding verminous heads (including 2 second warnings), 7 regarding verminous clothes, and 2 regarding cases of obstructed nose.

On completing the examination of each school, I have sent to the Central Department a list of children with defective eyesight. These lists are then sent to the Clerks of the respective School Boards.

During the year I have also made written statements on various matters, including a report regarding a deaf child, one regarding a blind child, reports regarding 10 verminous children, and various cases of ringworm ; reports on physical training, water supply, heating, and cloakroom accommodation.

REPORT BY DR. JOHN S. FINDLAY.

GENERAL.

This report deals with the period from my appointment on August, 15th, 1913, as School Medical Inspector in place of Dr. Skinner, who received an appointment in Birkenhead, to the end of July, 1914.

As far as possible the examination of the schools was conducted on lines similar to those previously followed. The schools inspected were the same as those inspected by Dr. Skinner (a list of which will be found on page 2 of the 3rd Annual Report), with the exception that the schools under the Muiravonside and Airth Boards were transferred to Dr. Gardner's district, and Kilsyth R.C. School, Banton and Banknock Schools under the Kilsyth Board, and Dennyloanhead and Longcroft Schools under the Denny Board, were transferred to my district.

Two visits were made for the purpose of Routine Inspection to each school, with the exception of Baldernock, which at the time of the second inspection was closed owing to an outbreak of scarlet fever. In addition to the Routine visits, visits in connection with "Follow-up-Work," surprise visits, and special visits in connection with infectious disease were also made. The nurses doing the school work in my district are Nurse Gibson and Nurse Mackenzie. Nurse Mackenzie was appointed in March, 1914. Previous to her appointment school work in Kilsyth Burgh was done by Nurse Henderson, and that in Lennoxton by Nurse Hempseed.

I take this opportunity of gratefully recording my thanks to all Head Teachers and Teachers for their help and assistance in carrying out the work of Medical Inspection. Their hearty co-operation is invaluable for the efficient carrying out of the work.

The sanitary condition of the schools has been fully reported on in previous reports, and is on the whole satisfactory. Where w.c.'s and urinals are in use they are kept clean and frequently flushed. The schools are also swept out and cleaned with the necessary frequency. The temperature of some schools was distinctly below what it should be, but with the present system of heating employed in those schools it would be impossible to keep the temperature at a proper level and at the same time keep the air pure.

The following table gives the total number of children examined and reported on.

Boys	Aged	5,	...	...	...	...	...	486
Girls	"	5,	...	...	...	...	...	468
Boys	"	7,	...	...	...	...	...	588
Girls	"	7,	...	...	...	...	...	579
Boys	"	10,	...	...	...	...	...	562
Girls	"	10,	...	...	...	...	...	541
Boys	"	13,	...	...	...	...	...	479
Girls	"	13,	...	...	...	...	...	469
Routine Total,			...	...	...	...	...	4172
Non-Routine Total,			...	...	...	...	...	774
Grand Total,			...	...	...	...	...	4946

In all cases notices were sent to the parents inviting them to be present at the examination of their children. It is to be regretted that so few take advantage to be present, the number of parents or guardians present at last year's examinations being 7 per cent. As might be expected, the parents attend better for the examination of the younger scholars.

Clothing.—Little requires to be said regarding this. Generally it was quite satisfactory. In only 20 cases was the clothing really bad, and of those 20 the majority were amongst the younger children. Although bad and insufficient clothing is the exception, yet the other extreme of over-clothing the child is not uncommon. An excess of clothing is bad, as in a room of ordinary temperature the child is easily over-heated and sweats. The free use of the limbs is prevented, and altogether an enervating effect is produced. The footgear was also, on the whole, satisfactory. Thirty-four children had boots in a very bad state. This condition is worse than no boots at all, as the stockings get soaked, and there being no means of drying them in school, the feet are chilled, which predisposes the child to more serious illnesses.

Cleanliness of Head and Body.—A comparison with last year's figures shows that there is a very marked improvement in the cleanliness of the children. As might be expected, there is greater want of cleanliness among the children from the poorer districts. Some of the verminous cases were excluded from school and were not re-admitted till clean. It is not uncommon to find distinct traces on a child's body of vermin having been recently present, although nothing is actually found on inspection, due to the fact that the child has had a clean fit out for the inspection. For the most part the parents have to be congratulated on the care of their children.

The large percentage of girls with nits in their hair is due both to a want of knowledge of how to cleanse the hair and also to a want of patience in carrying it out.

Taking the girls of all ages, 23.5 per cent. had nits and 4.08 per cent. vermin. Taking the boys of all ages, .99 per cent. had nits and .37 per cent. vermin.

PERCENTAGES.

	No. examined	Head		Clothes
		Nits	Vermin	
Girls,	2057	23·5	4·08	·4
Boys,	2115	·99	·37	·56

TABLE OF CLEANLINESS.

	Head		Body			
	Good	Medium	Bad	Good	Medium	Bad
Boys - No. examined, 2115						
5 years, ...	351	126	9	390	96	0
7 years, ...	500	87	1	525	62	1
10 years, ...	506	56	0	502	60	0
13 years, ...	419	59	1	371	103	5
Total, ...	1776	328	11	1788	321	6
Percentage, ...	83·9	15·5	·52	84·5	15·1	·28
Girls - No. examined, 2057						
5 years, ...	407	58	3	400	66	2
7 years, ...	549	28	2	532	47	0
10 years, ...	521	18	2	502	38	1
13 years, ...	443	26	0	425	44	0
Total, ...	1920	130	7	1859	195	3
Percentage, ...	93·3	6·3	·34	90·3	9·4	·14
						·97

VERMINOUS TABLE.

	Head		Body
	Nits	Vermin	Vermin
Boys— No. examined, 2115			
5 years, ...	11	4	3
7 years, ...	3	1	3
10 years, ...	1	1	3
13 years, ...	6	2	3
Total	21	8	12
Percentage ...	·99	·37	·56
Girls— No. examined, 2057			
5 years, ...	94	35	3
7 years, ...	120	16	2
10 years, ...	119	10	3
13 years, ...	152	23	1
Total	485	84	9
Percentage, ...	23·5	4·08	·43

Nutrition.—In estimating the nutrition the height and weight is taken in relation to the age and general appearance of the child. The following tables show the results.

NUTRITION.

Age	Boys			Girls				
	No. examined	Good	Medium	Bad	No. examined	Good	Medium	Bad
5	486	184	300	2	468	204	261	3
7	588	346	238	4	579	298	281	...
10	562	326	231	5	541	292	244	5
13	479	170	305	4	469	207	262	...
Total	2115	1026	1074	15	2057	1001	1048	8

Taking both ages and sexes together.

Percentage

Total No. examined	Good	Medium	Bad
4172	48.5	50.8	.5

The following table gives the height and weight of the boys and girls as compared with the standard. As regards the weight it will be noted that the boys of ten years were below the average, while the girls of the same group were above it. The other groups compare well with the standard both in height and weight.

HEIGHT IN INCHES

		Age 5	Age 7	Age 10	Age 13
Boys—Stirlingshire.	...	41·64	46·32	51·66	56·77
„ Standard, ...	...	41·00	46·0	51·8	56·9
Girls—Stirlingshire,	...	41·12	44·0	51·38	56·95
„ Standard, ...	...	40·8	44·5	51·1	57·8
WEIGHT IN POUNDS (<i>Avoirdupois</i>)					
Boys—Stirlingshire,	...	40·97	48·46	64·09	81·55
„ Standard, ...	...	39·9	49·7	67·5	82·6
Girls—Stirlingshire,	...	38·02	46·7	66·56	83·59
„ Standard, ...	...	39·6	46·7	62·0	87·0

Teeth.—The cleanliness of the mouth requires close attention, and the subject of dental decay is an enormous one. It is difficult to get some parents to realise how important it is for their children to have sound teeth and healthy mouths. Decay once started is difficult to control, and it spreads rapidly from tooth to tooth. Little is done in the way of conservative dentistry, and parents are apt to think that the first teeth are not worth saving. From the following table it will be seen that, taking all ages and both sexes together, only 20 per cent had perfect teeth.

DENTITION TABLE.

	Number examined	None Decayed.	1 to 4 Decayed.	5 to 8 Decayed.	9 and over. Decayed.
BOYS—5 years	486	92	285	89	20
7 years	588	85	360	127	16
10 years	562	126	379	57	0
13 years	479	134	317	28	0
Total ...	2115	437	1341	301	36
GIRLS—5 years	468	100	266	90	12
7 years	579	96	341	128	14
10 years	541	117	363	58	3
13 years	469	103	321	45	0
Total ...	2057	416	1291	321	29
Grand Total ...	4172	853	2632	622	65

Taking the four ages and both sexes together the percentages are :—

Percentage.

Number Examined.	None Decayed.	1 to 4 Decayed.	5 to 8 Decayed.	9 and over. Decayed.
4172	20·4	63·1	14·9	1·6

Nose and Throat.—Enlargement of the tonsils and adenoid growths were frequently found. In the case of children suffering from enlarged tonsils, notices were sent to the parents or guardians only in those cases where the enlargement was marked. Slight and moderate enlargements will be kept under observation, so that the enlargement may not become permanent. All cases of adenoids which were evidently causing ill health were referred for treatment. Nasal catarrh is also very common, especially in cold weather. This condition is certainly encouraged by the want of use of the handkerchief, and it would be a good thing if both parents and teachers were to insist on the proper clearing of the nostrils.

NOSE AND THROAT.

Age	No. examined	Enlarged Tonsils	Adenoids	Nasal Catarrh
Boys—				
5 years,	486	38	3	43
7 years,	588	98	10	40
10 years,	562	68	8	16
13 years,	479	44	1	5
Total,	2115	248	22	104
Girls—				
5 years,	468	56	2	21
7 years,	579	88	7	19
10 years,	541	97	2	5
13 years,	469	49	2	3
Total,	2057	290	13	48

Ear.—Defective hearing was found among 112 children, and of these 44 were elassed as medium and 68 as bad. The deafness of some of these children was due to adenoid growths. In others the deafness was due to wax, but the majority were or had been the subjects of running ears.

Thirty cases of otorrhœa or running ears were found. In all these cases the danger to the child of becoming deaf and also the danger of the disease spreading to the brain was pointed out to the parent.

Vision.—The vision was tested by means of Snellen's Test Types, and each eye was tested separately. Only children of 7 years and over were tested, and where glasses were worn the vision was tested with these glasses. The following table gives the number examined and the number found defective. Taking all ages and sexes together, it will be seen that 8.4 per cent. had one eye defective, 11.4 both eyes, and 80.1 per cent. were normal.

EYES.

Age	No. examined	One eye defective	Both eyes defective	Normal
Boys—				
7 years, ...	588	36	84	468
10 years, ...	562	48	50	464
13 years, ...	479	49	25	405
Total, ...	1629	133	159	1337
Percentage,	...	8.1	9.7	82.07
GIRLS—				
7 years, ...	579	51	85	443
10 years, ...	541	45	59	437
13 years, ...	469	44	64	361
Total, ...	1589	140	208	1241
Percentage,	..	8.8	13.08	78.09

Taking all ages and sexes together.

PERCENTAGE.

No. examined	One eye defective	Both eyes defective	Normal
3218	8.4	11.4	80.1

External Eye Diseases.—These are comparatively common. The following table gives the number examined and the conditions found.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

Age.	No. examined	Bleph- aritis	Conjunc- tivitis	Corneal Ulcer	Corneal Opacity	Stye	Squint	Others
Boys—								
5 years, ...	486	7	...	...	1	...	4	...
7 years, ...	588	6	...	1	5	...	15	4
10 years, ...	562	3	1	...	3	1	13	3
13 years, ...	479	...	...	...	...	...	13	...
Total, ...	2115	16	1	1	9	1	45	7
Girls—								
5 years, ...	468	5	1	...	1	1	8	1
7 years, ...	579	4	1	1	1	...	15	3
10 years, ...	541	4	...	...	6	...	14	5
13 years, ...	469	5	1	...	1	1	9	1
Total, ...	2057	18	3	1	9	2	46	10

Speech.—Forty-one cases of defective speech were noted. These were chiefly of a minor character, and will likely disappear as the child gets older.

Lungs.—The chief condition noted here was bronchial catarrh. This was a simply catarrh, the greater number of the cases occurring during the winter months. Three cases of bronchitis and one of asthma were also noted. For cases of consumption or tubercular disease of the lungs see under tuberculosis.

Heart and Circulation.—Seventy-two cases were found showing some abnormal cardiac condition. A number of these were functional troubles which would in time disappear. In all cases of heart abnormality the School Nurse (if the parent was not present at the examination) was instructed to call on the parent or guardian and explain matters. The teachers also received special instruction regarding drill, etc.

Mental Condition.—Taking both routine and non-routine cases together, 106 children were classified as dull or backward, 24 as feeble-minded, and 2 as imbecile. These feeble-minded children are always difficult to deal with in the ordinary schools, but suitable provision will now be made for them under the new Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913, which came into force on 15th May, 1914.

Nervous System.—Six cases of paralysis of various forms were noted. Three cases of chorea and three others with nervous symptoms were found.

Tuberculosis.—Seventeen cases of tuberculosis in some form were noted. Of this number 4 were cases affecting the bones, 9 of the glands, 1 of the skin, and 3 of the lungs (phthisis pulmonalis).

Diseases of the Skin.—The following list shows the number of children suffering from

Ringworm,	...	...	...	...	...	18
Scabies,	...	...	...	...	...	3
Impetigo,	...	...	...	...	...	15
Eczema,	...	...	...	...	...	11
Psoriasis,	...	...	...	...	...	3
Various,	...	...	...	...	...	14

Rickets.—This disease, usually due to insufficient or unsuitable food and bad surroundings, is active before the child begins school. Seventy-three children showed signs of the disease. The deformities it produces are chiefly pigeon breast, bow legs, knock knee, and curved or sabre-shaped tibiae.

Twenty-one children were found suffering from anaemia, eight from general debility, seven from hernia, five from enlarged thyroid, and twenty-three from other affections.

Notices were issued in 485 cases for defects requiring medical treatment. In addition, 44 notices for verminous head, 20 for verminous clothes or body, 29 for obstructed breathing due to some abnormality of the respiratory tract, 22 for ear trouble, and 50 for defective teeth were also issued.

The number of visits paid by the nurses will be found in the nurses' reports. Nurse Henderson, who visited in Kilsyth Burgh up to the period when Nurse Mackenzie was appointed, had made during the period extending from 24th April, 1913, to February 28th, 1914, 427 visits, of which 185 were to verminous cases.

Non-Routine Cases.—Seven hundred and seventy-four non-routine cases were examined. In this number are included the following, viz. :—

Ragged and Dirty Clothing,...	...	...	10	cases.
Head Verminous, ...	...	...	45	„
Body Verminous, ...	...	...	29	„
Nasal Obstruction, ...	...	...	31	„
Enlarged Tonsils, ...	...	...	16	„
Head very Dirty, ...	...	...	9	„
Body very Dirty, ...	...	...	2	„
Septic Teeth, ...	...	...	2	„
Suppurating Gland of Neck,...	...	...	1	„
Adenoids, ...	...	...	19	„

One hundred and five children were found suffering from external eye disease (which included 33 cases of squint, 44 of blepharitis, 14 of conjunctivitis, 3 of corneal opacities, 3 of nystagmus, and 8 others).

Vision.—11 had one eye and 126 had both eyes defective.

Ear Disease.—26 had otorrhœa and 2 had wax plugs.

Defective Hearing.—50 cases were noted.

Abnormality of the Heart.—7 cases were noted.

Paralysis 2 cases, and epilepsy 4 cases.

Mentally defective children and cases of tuberculosis were already referred to under routine examinations.

With regard to non-routine inspections, notices for medical treatment were sent to the parents in 290 cases. Forty-four cards for verminous heads and 29 cards for verminous clothes were also sent.

AMELIORATION TABLE.

	Tonsils		Adenoids		Eyes			Ears		Heart		Vermix				Other con- ditions			
	Remedied	Nothing done	Remedied	Nothing done	Vision		External Eye Disease		Remedied	Nothing done	Remedied	Nothing done	Head		Body		Remedied	Nothing done	
					Remedied	Nothing done	Remedied	Nothing done					Clean	Improved	Clean	Improved			
Baldernock, ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	1
Balfroun, ...	...	1	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Buchanan, ...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	5	...	...
Campsie, ...	...	...	3	...	...	6	...	12	11	...	2	...	23	4	...	...	11	...	...
Denny, ...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...
Drymen, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Falkirk (Landward), ...	16	4	9	1	14	33	...	23	21	...	6	...	...	18	31	12	16	25	...
Grangemouth, ...	21	1	21	...	...	1	4	28	36	...	...	...	...	20	20	6	17	48	...
Killearn, ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kilsyth (Burgh), ...	16	1	12	...	42	5	3	13	16	...	14	...	...	31	46	24	54	30	...
Kilsyth (Landward), ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	2	6	13	...	2	...	...	1	5	2	13	13	...
Slamannan, ...	2	1	...	1	15	3	3	6	6	...	2	...	...	8	5	1	2	6	...
Strathblane, ...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

A number of children not included in the above table, who were referred for defects during the later months of the school year, were to get those defects remedied during the summer

holidays. About 50 cases of defective vision are waiting to see the oculist at his next visit. Some parents (a very small percentage) refuse to get glasses for their children. With some children it is difficult to get them to wear the glasses after getting them, fear of ridicule being the chief cause of this. All the cases of defective hearing were attended to, and with marked improvement in most cases. With some, unfortunately, nothing more can be done to improve their hearing. Sixteen children left the district in which they were without having their defects seen to at all.

REPORT BY DR. PRANGNELL.

This report, as in former years, deals with nine schools in the Burgh of Falkirk.

Number of Children on Register and in Average Attendance.—In the nine schools the total number of children on the roll was 7102. The average attendance was 6474, equal to 91·2 per cent. of the total roll. In two of the schools the average attendance was slightly under 90 per cent. There has been no over-crowding, as accommodation is provided for 7720 children in accordance with the requirements of the Scotch Education Department.

Number of Visits to Schools.—All the schools were visited in rotation for the examination of available children at each of the four age periods. Beginning with entrants, these were examined throughout the various schools, after which the 13 year old group was taken. The 7 year old group was examined next, and finally the 10 year old group.

This arrangement of age periods in order of examination differs from previous years, because it was found that many children reached their fourteenth birthday during the first half of the school year. To overtake these children in a final examination before leaving school this group was taken after the entrants instead of being left to the last, as in previous years. At the completion of routine examinations for each age group at each school in the order arranged, a forenoon was devoted to the examination of non-routines.

The age groups were arranged, as in the previous years, according to the year of birth, except that the five year group included all entrants as well as those born in the year 1908. Special visits were made one day per week, as a rule, for re-examination of children found defective at a previous examination. At this visit advantage was taken to look over and encourage those children known to be more or less chronic cases of uncleanness.

Sanitary Condition of Schools.

Lighting.—This is generally satisfactory. There are still some classrooms with badly arranged seating, so that the light does not fall on the side of the child. In St. Francis and Northern Schools, especially in dull weather, lighting is defective both on account of bad situation and defective construction of class rooms.

Heating.—Throughout the year this has been very satisfactory. During a few days in January the morning tempera-

ture was under 50° F., especially in those schools with open fires. The more recently built schools—High, Victoria, Carmuir, and Camelon—are heated by low pressure pipes and radiators, and there is little difficulty in maintaining a minimum temperature of 50° F. on the coldest day when once efficiently raised. In those schools with no central heating, and where the classroom depends on an open fire, it is almost impossible with reasonably efficient ventilation to maintain this minimum in cold weather. The eode minimum is from 56° to 60° F.

Water Supply.—This is abundant for all purposes.

Paving of Playgrounds.—Generally the playgrounds are not satisfactory, espeially in winter. The surfaces being ash covered, are liable to become irregular, rough and dirty.

Ventilation.—This is reeeiving more attention. Each year some improvements are being carried out to enable natural ventilation by cross currents to be effective. In the Northern School, Room No. 8 was particularly bad this year, on account of defective ventilation. There is no system of artifical ventilation in any of the schools. The natural means by open windows, fire places, or upcast shafts, Tobin's tubes, and other forms are in use. If attended to, nothing can surpass efficient cross ventilation.

Cleansing and Disinfection.—This has been found satisfactory. Floors and furniture are scrubbed once in six weeks as a minimum. Walls and glass partitions are also cleansed once in six weeks. During vaeation all the schools are specially cleansed and disinfected. All floors are swept out daily with sawdust moistened with disinfectant. Furniture, wainscot and lower ledges are dusted daily with damp eloths.

Sanitary Conveniences.—Latrines are furnished with pedestal seats, and are flushed automatically or independently. Urinals are of glazed bricks with cement floors capable of being efficiently flushed by hose.

Wash-hand basins are of the independent and long-trough type, provided with a supply of soap and clean towels. There is evidence of some improvement in the supply of clean towels, but there is room for improvement in the edueation of the children as to their proper use.

Infectious Disease and Co-ordination with the Public Health Service.—By arrangement with the Headmasters, with the approval of the School Board, all cases known or suspected of infectious disease coming to their knowledge are immediately notified on postcards supplied for the purpose and addressed to the Medical Officer of Health. If the disease is a notifiable one, and no intimation has already been made in terms of the

ROUTINE EXAMINATIONS.

BOYS.

(FALKIRK BURGH SCHOOLS.)

GIRLS.

CONDITION	5		7		10		13		Total		5		7		10		13		Total		Grand Total.	
	No. of Defects.		Percentage.		No. of Defects.		Percentage.		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.		Percentage.		No. of Defects.		Percentage.		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children defective.
No. of Children examined, ...	437	...	...	...	348	...	...	...	329	...	...	...	...	...	344	...	...	...	313	...	...	...
No. of Children defective, ...	234	...	51	...	248	...	71	...	216	...	59	...	163	...	50	...	1481	...	861	...	58	...
Clothing and Footgear, ...	...	...	28	0-384	...	1	2-87	...	18	4-86	...	19	5-776	...	66	4-422	...	...	...	...	...	...
Head and Body dirty, ...	...	...	16	3-648	...	7	2-009	...	9	2-43	...	3	912	...	35	2-345	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nits, ...	...	...	2	4-56	...	10	4-502	...	6	1-62	...	1	304	...	25	1-075	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vermin, ...	...	...	20	4-56	...	8	2-296	...	11	2-97	...	6	1-824	...	45	3-015	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bad Nutrition, ...	...	...	16	3-648	...	12	3-444	...	13	3-51	...	12	3-648	...	53	3-551	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dental { 1-4, ...	...	...	167	38-076	...	144	41-328	...	221	59-67	...	206	62-624	...	738	49-446	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caries, { 5-8, ...	...	...	118	26-904	...	144	41-328	...	105	28-35	...	77	23-408	...	444	29-748	...	...	...	...	...	...
and { 9 and over, ...	...	...	31	7-068	...	15	4-305	...	4	1-08	...	2	608	...	52	3-484	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nose { Tonsils, ...	...	...	58	13-224	...	77	22-099	...	62	16-74	...	51	15-504	...	248	16-616	...	...	...	...	...	...
and { Adenoids, ...	...	...	10	2-280	...	15	4-305	...	13	3-51	...	6	1-824	...	44	2-948	...	...	...	...	...	...
Throat { Glands, ...	...	...	42	9-576	...	57	16-359	...	35	9-45	...	13	3-052	...	147	9-849	...	...	...	...	...	...
External Eye Disease, ...	...	...	13	2-964	...	17	4-879	...	16	4-32	...	4	1-216	...	50	3-350	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vision { One Eye Defective, ...	...	...	Not examined.	...	...	21	6-027	...	28	7-56	...	18	5-472	...	67	5-417	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Both Eyes Defective, ...	...	...	Not examined.	...	...	22	6-314	...	25	6-75	...	24	7-236	...	71	6-80	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Otorrhoea, ...	...	...	3	6-84	...	4	1-148	...	4	1-08	...	5	1-304	...	12	804	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ears { Wax, ...	...	...	2	4-56	...	7	2-009	...	6	1-62	...	5	1-520	...	20	1-340	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hearing, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6-74	...	12	3-24	...	5	1-520	...	19	1-273	...	...	...	...	...	...
Speech, ...	...	...	5	1-140	...	11	3-167	...	8	2-16	...	3	912	...	27	1-809	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mentally Defective, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vaccination—Bad or Nil, ...	...	...	204	45-512	...	55	15-785	...	41	11-07	...	26	7-904	...	326	21-842	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart { Functional, ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	861	...	5	1-62	...	2	608	...	11	737	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Organic, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Respiratory, ...	...	...	8	1-824	...	11	3-157	...	3	81	...	...	...	...	22	1-474	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous, ...	...	...	2	4-56	...	...	...	...	1	2-7	...	1	304	...	4	2-68	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5-74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	134	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, ...	...	...	1	2-28	...	5	1-435	...	8	2-16	...	4	1-216	...	18	1-206	...	...	...	...	...	...
Deformities, ...	...	...	6	1-368	...	5	1-435	...	8	2-16	...	5	1-520	...	24	1-608	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infectious Diseases, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	607	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skin Diseases, ...	...	...	12	2-736	...	6	1-722	...	3	81	...	3	912	...	23	1-541	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others, ...	...	...	3	6-84	...	2	5-74	...	2	5-4	...	1	304	...	8	536	...	...	...	...	...	...

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, the Medical Officer or one of the staff makes inquiries. In the case of measles, or other infectious disease not compulsorily notifiable, the Health Visitor calls at the home. After due inquiry, in the case of any infectious disease coming to the knowledge of the Public Health Department, a notice is sent to the Headmaster, periods of exclusion of contacts are specified, and on return of patients from hospital a further notice is sent.

In this way, as Medical Officer of Health, I certified for special grant on lists made out by teachers that in terms of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, 178 cases of measles, 205 of scarlet fever, 23 of diphtheria, 29 of mumps, 11 of ringworm, 32 of whooping cough, 3 of tuberculosis, 2 of ophthalmia, 7 of enteric fever, 95 of chickenpox, and 26 of infectious skin diseases had been excluded as patients or contacts.

Results of Medical Inspection of Children.—Total number of children examined. There were 3314, including routine examinations.

		Boys	Girls
Routine Examinations,	Entrants,	437	386
"	" 7 years old, ...	348	384
"	" 10 years old, ...	367	344
"	" 13 years old, ...	329	313
		1481	1427

and non-routine examinations, both sexes and all ages, 406. For the previous year 3052 were the total examinations.

Number of Children Notified Regarding Defects.—Of routine cases there were 167 boys and 221 girls. Of non-routine cases there were 71 boys and 73 girls. The total number of children notified for defects was 532. The 167 routine boys had 237 defects, or 1·4 defects per child. The 221 routine girls had 304 defects or 1·4 defects per child.

Number of Children Receiving Attention.—Of the 388 routine cases notified for treatment, 167, or 43 per cent., were treated, 98 were placed on the Eye Specialist's list, and 123 were transferred to the School Nurse for visitation and following-up, as either nothing had been done or the improvement was not sufficient.

Of those on the Eye Specialist's list, 59 are provided with lenses, 4 did not have spectacles prescribed, 2 could not be examined, 7 had not by the end of the school year an opportunity of being examined, and 29 did nothing or left school or district. The total number of children who received attention eventually, was 326, or 83·5 per cent., of which number 21 were for teeth.

Of 144 non-routine cases notified for treatment, 69, or 48·6 per cent., were attended to, 26 were placed on the Eye Specialist's list, and 49 were transferred to the School Nurse. Of those on the Eye Specialist's list, 13 are supplied with spectacles, 2 received other treatment, and 11 did nothing. Of those transferred to the School Nurse, 44 received attention and 5 did nothing. Of 532 routine and non-routine children notified for treatment, 454, or 85 per cent., received attention. Of this number 21 were suffering from very defective teeth.

I append an Amelioration Table, showing the number of defects notified to parents along with 173 cards containing useful printed information. 360, or 51·8 per cent., of the total defects were notified to medical men on 274 medical treatment return post cards. 243, or 67·5 per cent., of defects notified to medical men were seen by them. 47 children were excluded from school until cleansed or otherwise treated. 497, or 71·5 per cent., of notified defects were treated by operation, provision of spectacles or otherwise. Of 213 defects in 172 children whose names were transferred to the School Nurse, 134 defects in 122 children were attended to, after repeated visitation of the homes, interviewing and encouraging parents, leaving 34 children with 75 defects. Many of these had left the districts or were over school age, some pled poverty, a few objected to operations, others were indifferent. I have nothing but praise for the efficient and tactful work of the School Nurse.

On the Nurse's list carried forward from the previous year were 58 children; 6 were suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, 19 from defective vision, 1 from external eye disease, while 32 were dirty and verminous. As a result of "following-up," 8 were supplied with spectacles, 26 were cleansed, and 3 had surgical operations.

When the Eye Specialist began his work in Falkirk, Dr. Adam asked for a return of children suffering from defective vision in the year 1912-13, and still requiring treatment. A list of 45 children was submitted, of which 33 were provided with spectacles.

AMELIORATION TABLE.

	No. notified to Parents for treatment	No. notified to Medical attendant	No. seen by Medical attendant	No. of operations performed	No. of spectacles supplied	No. otherwise treated	Percentage of notified defects attended to
Dirty, Nits, or Vermin,	156	1	1	...	...	144	92.3
Caries and Sepsis, ...	64	1	1	...	...	21	32.8
Mouth Breathing, ...	30	28	21	16	...	5	70
Enlarged Tonsils, ...	55	49	33	22	...	13	63.6
Adenoids, ...	49	44	29	23	...	7	61.2
Enlarged Glands, ...	3	2	2	...	...	3	100
Deafness, ...	31	23	17	4	...	22	90
Wax, ...	28	28	18	...	...	25	
Otorrhœa, ...	23	18	13	...	...	23	
Vision, ...	148	93	54	...	84	7	61.5
External Eye Disease,	38	26	20	...	...	24	63.1
Phthisis Pulmonalis, ...	8	5	5	...	...	8	100
Non-Pulmonary							
Tuberculosis, ...	4	3	...	...	...	3	75
Other Lung affections,	2	1	1	...	...	2	100
Organic Murmur, ...	5	5	4	...	...	4	80
Others, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skin Disease, ...	37	23	18	...	...	29	78.3
Deformities, ...	7	7	3	...	...	2	28.6
Other Diseases, ...	7	3	3	...	...	6	85.7
Total, ...	695	360	243	65	84	348	...
		51.8%	67.5%	71.5%			

Clothing and Footgear.—As in previous years, the teachers' estimate has been recorded. Of boys, 4.4 per cent. were defective in this respect, as compared with 5.6 for the previous year. Of girls, 3.2 per cent. had defective clothing and footgear, as compared with 1.1 for the previous year. Among boys, the 7 and 10 year groups show a marked improvement over the previous year, while the entrants and 13 year group are worse. Among girls, the percentage of those with defective clothing and footgear is much higher at all age groups, but more especially at 10 and 13 years, when compared with the previous year. There is a decided want of buttons, and an abnormal number of pins, hairpins, etc., used among the older girls for fastening garments. These garments could in most cases be repaired and kept clean by the girls themselves. If those girls were instructed to repair their own clothing

during school hours a great improvement might be made and a useful education in such matters provided. Ignorance and sheer indifference are more evident than real poverty. 13 children had not sufficient clothing, 25 were in rags, 28 were filthy. 45 had no boots or, which is worse, very defective boots.

Heights and Weights.—The tables of heights and weights at the four age periods, compared with the previous years, show no falling off generally. The average heights and weights among boys at the 5 year old period are a little less than in the previous year, but they are quite equal to the anthropometric standard. The 7 and 10 year old boys are a little better than in the previous year but under the anthropometric standard, as also are the 13 year old boys. Among girls the 5, 7 and 10 year old are all better than in the previous year and are above the anthropometric standard. The 13 year old girls are less in height and weight than in the previous year and are below the standard, especially in weight.

BOYS.

Height (Inches).

Weight (lbs.).

Age Periods.	5	7	10	13	5	7	10	13
Falkirk :—								
Year 1910–11,	41·5	45·4	51·2	56·1	40·6	48	63·2	77·9
Year 1911–12,	41·5	45·3	51·4	57·7	40·8	48	63·1	80·9
Year 1912–13,	42·02	45·4	51·8	57	40·5	48·6	64·5	82
Year 1913–14,	41·5	45·6	52·02	56·5	40·06	49·2	64·08	80·4
Anthropometric,	41	46	51·8	56·9	39·9	49·7	67·5	82·6
Difference,	+·5	—·4	+·22	—·4	+·16	—·5	—3·42	—2·2

GIRLS.

Height (Inches).

Weight (lbs.).

Age Periods.	5	7	10	13	5	7	10	13
Falkirk :—								
Year 1910–11,	41·2	45·4	50·8	56·3	39·2	47·2	60·6	79·6
Year 1911–12,	43·4	45·3	51·0	57·6	39·6	46·6	60	83·9
Year 1912–13,	41·1	45·3	51·1	57·7	39·1	47·3	61·7	85
Year 1913–14,	41·38	45·5	52·04	57·35	39·1	47·5	62·54	83·44
Anthropometric,	40·8	44·50	51·1	57·8	39·6	46·7	62	87
Difference,	+·58	+1	+·94	—·45	—·5	+·8	+·54	—3·56

In the month of June the Falkirk Burgh School Board were considering the provision of free meals to necessitous children, instead of the arrangement by voluntary subscription. The

teachers were requested by circular letter to prepare lists of children for my inspection. The teachers were to report the results.

Of 76 children examined, 40 were in receipt of free meals. Only 15 were found to be ill-nourished or decidedly under the average for such children, 36 were slightly under the average but did not look ill-nourished, 6 were average children, and 19 were well above the average. In coming to a decision as to whether a child is sufficiently nourished, several factors must be taken into account and even then a difference between examiners will be found. There is a tendency for Falkirk children to show less variation from standard height and weight up to 10 years than at the higher ages, and this is especially noticeable as regards weight in the 13 year old groups.

Cleanliness of Head and Body.—The conditions noted in the previous year have been maintained and slightly improved generally. There were 2·34 per cent. of boys found dirty as compared with 2·9 for the previous year. There were 3·2 per cent of girls found dirty as compared with 3·5 for the previous year. Infant boys were much worse when compared with the previous year, and 13 year old boys were much improved. When cleanliness of head is considered, the proportion of boys with dirty heads is less than half that of girls, which is no doubt due to their short hair. As regards cleanliness of body, the same proportion, 3 per cent., are to be found dirty in both sexes. The percentage of boys harbouring nits was 1·675 as compared with 2·9 for the previous year, but the percentage of boys harbouring vermin rose from 2·09 in the previous year to 3·01 for the year under consideration. Among girls, 19·6 per cent. were recorded as harbouring nits as compared with 22 per cent. for the previous year. 2·3 per cent. were recorded as harbouring vermin as compared with 3·1 for the previous year.

Among boys vermin are more on the body. Among girls vermin are more on the head. Except among 7 year old boys and 10 year old girls, there is improvement over previous years. The greatest improvement is to be noted among girls. 156 of the worst cases of dirt, nits and vermin were notified to parents, 31 of these were excluded from school for cleansing, 87 were transferred to the School Nurse to be followed up. Eventually 144 or 92·3 per cent. were cleansed or improved.

Condition of the Skin.—There were 43 cases of skin disease recorded during routine examination, equal to 1·46 per cent. of routine examinations as compared with 42 or 1·6 per cent for the previous year. Boys and girls were almost equally affected. There were 12 cases recorded in non-routine examinations. The total included 4 cases of ringworm, 3 of scabies, 24 of

impetigo, 5 of alopecia, and 19 with other skin affections. Of the total, 37 were notified to parents, 10 were excluded for treatment and transferred to the School Nurse for following up. 29 or 78.3 per cent. were efficiently treated.

Nutrition.—Of routine examinations, 643 children were considered to be well nourished, 739 average, and 45 badly nourished.

Teeth.—There is little improvement in dental caries from the previous year. 463 children, or 15.742 per cent., had good teeth; 1427 children, or 49 per cent., had 4 or fewer decayed teeth as compared with 42 per cent. for the previous year: 909, or 31.2 per cent., had 5 to 8 decayed teeth as compared with 34.5 per cent. for the previous year; 109, or 3.7 per cent., had 9 or more decayed teeth as compared with 3.9 per cent. in the previous year. As regards cleanliness of the teeth, 1359 children were recorded as having clean teeth, and 94 had very dirty teeth.

DENTITION TABLE.

BOYS.

Age Group.	No. Examined.	None Decayed..	1-4	5-8	9 and over.
5	437	121=27.6%	167=38.2%	118=27.0%	31=7.1%
7	348	45=12.9%	144=41.4%	144=41.4%	15=4.6%
10	367	37=10%	221=60.2%	105=28.6%	4=1.09%
13	329	44=13.3%	206=62.6%	77=23.4%	2=.5%
Total	1481	247=16.4%	738=49.8%	444=30%	52=3.5%

GIRLS.

Age Group.	No. Examined.	None Decayed.	1-4	5-8	9 and over.
5	386	83=21.5%	156=40.4%	122=31.6%	25=6.4%
7	384	50=13%	161=41.9%	153=40%	20=5.2%
10	344	46=13.3%	199=57.8%	94=27.3%	5=1.4%
13	313	37=11.8%	173=55.2%	96=30.6%	7=2%
Total ...	1427	216=15.1%	689=48.3%	465=32.5%	57=3.9%
Total— Both Sexes	2908	463=15.7%	1427=49%	909=31.2%	109=3.7%

Parents were only notified where there was caries with oral sepsis. 64 notices were sent, and some amelioration was obtained in 21 or 32.8 per cent. of those notified.

Nose and Throat.—There were 24 children recorded as suffering from nasal catarrh, 1 with deflected nasal septum, 2 with cleft palate, 1 with enlarged turbinates, and 2 with bifid uvula.

Tonsils.—499 children had enlarged tonsils, equal to 16·966 per cent. of children examined, as compared with 15 per cent. for the previous year. Girls were slightly worse than boys in this respect. Of the 499 recorded, 55 were markedly enlarged and were notified to parents. Of those, 22 were treated by operation and 13 otherwise, equal to 63·6 per cent. of the cases notified.

Adenoids.—76 children had adenoids, equal to 2·584 per cent. of those examined, as compared with 2·1 per cent. for the previous year. Boys were worse than girls in this respect. 49 cases were notified to parents, and of these 23 received treatment by operation, and 7 were otherwise treated, equal to 61·2 per cent. of those notified.

Mouth Breathers.—32 children were mouth breathers. 30 were notified to parents, and of these 16 were operated on, 5 were otherwise treated, equal to 70 per cent. of those notified.

Glands.—There were 244 children who had enlarged cervical or submaxillary glands. Only three were notified to parents, and received treatment without operation.

External Eye Diseases.—There were 101 children suffering from external eye diseases, equal to 3·434 per cent. of children examined, as compared with 3·1 per cent. for the previous year. Girls were slightly worse than boys. The children of the 13 year old group were least affected. 26 had blepharitis, 11 had conjunctivitis, 8 had corneal opacities, 43 had strabismus, 4 had corneal ulcers, 9 had various other conditions. 38 were notified to parents, and of these 24, or 63·1 per cent., received attention.

Vision.—As in previous years. children of 7 years old and upwards were examined by Snellen's Test Types.

BOYS.

Age Group.	No. Examined.	No. found normal.	No. found defective in one eye.	No. found defective in both eyes.
7 years.	348	305=87·6%	21=6·02%	22=6·31%
10 years.	367	314=85·3%	28=7·56%	25=6·75%
13 years.	329	287=87·2%	18=5·47%	24=7·29%
Total	1044	906=86·7%	67=6·417%	71=6·80%

GIRLS.

Age Group.	No. Examined.	No. found normal.	No. found defective in one eye.	No. found defective in both eyes.
7 years.	384	333=86·7%	22=5·72%	29=7·54%
10 years.	344	286=83·1%	19=5·51%	39=11·31%
13 years.	313	262=83·7%	26=8·32%	25=8·0%
Total	1041	881=84·6%	67=6·436%	93=8·93%
All ages and both sexes	2085	1787=85·7%	134=6·426%	164=7·865%

Of 2085 children examined, 1787, or 85·7 per cent. of children examined, had normal vision. 134 had defective vision in one eye, equal to 6·426 per cent. of those examined as compared with 5·7 per cent. for the previous year. 164 had defective vision in both eyes, equal to 7·865 per cent. of those examined as compared with 6·6 per cent. for the previous year. As in previous years, girls were worse than boys in this respect. 86·7 per cent of boys examined were found normal, 84·6 per cent. of girls were found normal. Boys and girls are similar where only one eye is involved. Where both eyes are affected girls are worse than boys at all age periods. 148 cases of defective vision were notified to parents. 84 were provided with lenses and 7 received other treatment, equal to 61·5 per cent of those notified.

All parents have an opportunity of consulting the Eye Specialist. The great majority avail themselves of his services, but a few have preferred to go to Glasgow. A number of children included among those whose parents were notified have not yet had an opportunity of consulting the Eye Specialist

Word Blindness.—A very interesting case of word blindness or, to be more precise, loss of visual memory for letters and

words, came under my observation. This case is the more interesting because of the fact that although the boy could not read any letters he could read figures printed or written. The following notes were made of this case:—H. R., male, 13 years, was presented for examination. He was considered by his teachers to be defective. His teachers had never been able to teach him any letters or words, yet he was good at arithmetic. The boy was free from any defect, well developed and intelligent. On trying him with the test types, I found he could not distinguish any letter in capital formation or otherwise. He could see the letters, but could not name or sound any of them. I tested him with figures printed and written. These he recognised at once. His memory for figures was perhaps above the average, as he was credited with being good at mental arithmetic. The teachers were very much interested in this boy. On my suggestion he was placed under a special teacher, who devoted some time each day to him in the endeavour to educate his hearing and visual centres after the old fashion, beginning with the letters of the alphabet. It was found that after learning a few letters and going on to other letters he forgot the previous ones learned. After persevering for some time he could read some words of two and three letters, but real progress was not made on account of the inability to remember what he had previously learned. The boy himself was anxious, and probably had his case been discovered in the earlier years of school life something more might have been accomplished. After inquiry I have not been able to discover that any relation was ever unable to read letters. The father, mother, brothers, and sisters are all alive and healthy. The grandfather and an uncle have suffered from nervous affections. The grandmother informs me that boxing the child's ears was a common form of punishment adopted by his parents, and cases of acquired word blindness have been attributed to injuries of the head and to mental worry. Probably in this case the form of punishment had some influence.

Ears.—Discharging ears were found in 20 children—12 boys and 8 girls—equal to .68 per cent. of children examined as compared with .6 per cent for the previous year.

Wax.—28 children—20 boys and 8 girls—had marked accumulations of wax in one or both ears, equal to .952 per cent. of children examined as compared with .9 per cent. for the previous year.

Hearing.—Of 34 children suffering from defective hearing, 19 were boys and 15 were girls, equal to 1.156 per cent. as compared with 1.2 per cent for the previous year. Otorrhoea and wax were common causes of deafness. Of 82 cases with

defective ears notified to parents, 4 were treated by operation, while 70 were otherwise treated, equal to 90 per cent. of defects notified.

Speech.—Of 37 children suffering from defective speech, 27 were boys and 10 were girls. Stammering, indistinctness, or lisping were the chief defects noted. No notices were sent to parents regarding defects of speech. Teachers were advised to instruct patiently in slow, careful articulation with breathing exercises.

Mental Condition.—There were 56 children considered mentally backward or well below the average—41 were boys and 15 were girls. There were two girls considered mentally defective. As in previous years, boys were worse than girls generally. The greatest proportion were noted in the 10 year old group. Many of these cases will improve later, being children of slow mental development.

Heart and Circulation.—There were discovered 9 cases of organic murmur, 4 being boys and 5 girls. There were also 26 children considered to be suffering from functional disease of the heart. Five well-marked cases of organic heart disease were notified to parents and medical men, four of which were seen by medical men. In the case of one girl the parents could not be prevailed upon to consult a medical man.

Lungs.—There were discovered 45 cases of mild bronchitis or bronchial catarrh. I considered that the majority of these children were better at school, where conditions were more favourable, than at home in close, stuffy rooms. Two were notified to parents and received attention.

Tuberculosis of the Lungs.—There were 6 cases of phthisis and 3 doubtful cases recorded, 2 being boys and 7 girls, equal to .3 per cent. of children examined as compared with .1 per cent. for the previous year. Eight were notified to parents, and all received attention.

Nervous System.—There were four cases of epilepsy, 2 being boys and 2 girls, six cases of infantile paralysis, 1 being a boy and 5 girls, and there were three other cases. In all there were 13 cases, 4 being boys and 9 girls, equal to .442 per cent. as compared with .3 per cent. for the previous year of children examined. No notices were sent to parents.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—There were 38 cases recorded, of which number 18 were boys and 20 girls, equal to 1.292 per cent. as compared with 1 per cent. for the previous year of children examined. In 31 cases the glands were affected, in 6 the bones, and in one the skin. Four were notified to parents, and of these three received attention.

Rickets.—There were 21 cases of rickets, 14 being boys and 7 girls. This disease is one of the common causes of deformity.

Deformities.—There were 24 boys and 24 girls presenting deformities, equal to 1·6 per cent. of children examined. 18 cases of bow legs or knock knees, 6 were cases of club foot, 5 of pigeon chest, 4 of spinal curvature, 15 had shortened limbs, deformed hands, hare-lip, or ankylosed joints. Seven were notified to parents, but only two of these were efficiently treated.

Infectious Disease.—Only three cases of chickenpox were discovered in school. In an early part of this report the co-operation with the Public Health Service and the numbers of children excluded from attendance at school on account of infectious disease are noted.

Other Diseases and Defects.—These included 8 cases of anaemia, 3 of rheumatism, 2 of hernia, 1 of threadworms, 2 of encuresis, 8 being boys and 8 girls, equal to ·544 per cent. of children examined.

Previous Illness Table.—Appended is a table showing a record of previous illnesses with percentages of children who have suffered from these diseases before entering school and during school life. Much the same results are shown as in previous years.

PREVIOUS ILLNESS TABLE.

Age Period	Number of Children.		Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Mumps.	Smallpox.	Rheumatism.	Fits.	Others.
5	823	575	400	114	55	9	157	...	2	12	124	
	...	69·8%	48·6%	13·8%	6·6%	1%	19%	...	...	...	...	...
7	732	530	354	140	70	15	166	...	6	10	94	
	...	72·3%	48·3%	19·1%	9·5%	2%	22·6%	...	...	...	...	...
10	711	586	355	147	81	14	184	...	20	12	118	
	...	82·4%	50%	20·6%	11·3%	2%	25·8%	...	...	...	...	...
13	642	521	328	122	73	16	170	1	23	5	94	
	...	81·1%	51%	19%	11·3%	2·4%	26·4%	...	...	...	...	...

Arrangements for Feeding Children.—This was, as in previous years provided by private subscription under the direction of Mr. Haddow, late member of the Falkirk Burgh School Board. For the period of six months 145 children, as compared with 180 for the previous year, received free dinners, consisting of nutritious soup and bread.

Parents Present at Examination.—214 parents were present as compared with 157 for the previous year, equal to 7 per cent. as compared with 6 per cent. Each year shows an increased interest taken by parents in these examinations.

Mothers Employed Away.—According to information received, 55 mothers, or 1·8 per cent., were employed outside their own homes, as compared with 52 or two per cent. for the previous year.

Consumption in the Family.—The family history of consumption as recorded remains about 1 per cent. as in previous years.

Work Before and After School Hours.—Fifty-seven boys and 11 girls were recorded as doing work before and after school hours, as compared with 51 boys and 15 girls for the previous year. 67 per cent. of those employed were 13 years old. 23 per cent. were 10 years old, and 9 per cent. were 7 years old. 84 per cent. of the total were boys, as compared with 77 per cent. for the previous year.

I have again to record my thanks to the headmasters and their assistants for their courtesy and valued co-operation.

REPORT BY NURSE GIBSON.

I have pleasure in submitting the Fourth Annual Report of my work as School Nurse for the year ending 31st July, 1914.

Since my last report a change has taken place in my work through the appointment of Miss Maekenzie as additional School Nurse. This necessitated a re-arrangement of the places to be visited by me, so that, whereas previously I had practically the whole of the County to cover in the course of the year, I now have to visit only Airth, Baldernock, Campsie, Falkirk (Burgh), Gargunnoch, Kippen, Larbert, Muiravonside, St. Ninians, Strathblane, and Stirling (Abbey School). This change has been of great benefit to me in my work, because, having fewer places to visit, I am now able to give more detailed attention to each, and to follow up the cases more thoroughly. In "verminous" cases especially, only constant visiting at the houses has the desired effect. When I mention that six, seven and eight visits have had to be made ere the children could be called "clean," it will be seen that the appointment of the additional Nurse cannot but tend towards more effective work. The new arrangement will also permit of my helping in the work of the Oculist, who thoroughly examines the eyes of children found with defective vision.

During the year I made 3072 visits to parents and guardians. Of these, 1426 were made in Dr. Gardner's district, 866 in Dr. Findlay's, and 780 in Dr. Prangnell's. The total number of children reported by the doctors, and, in some cases of dirt and vermin, by the headmasters, was 1458. Of that number 465 children were dirty and verminous, 408 suffered from defective eyesight, 381 from enlarged tonsils, adenoids, running ears, decayed teeth, and affections of the throat, nose, ears and mouth. There were in addition 310 cases which, because of various other defects, required medical treatment.

Of the 465 children reported for dirt and vermin, 174 were in Dr. Gardner's district, 156 in Dr. Findlay's, and 135 in Dr. Prangnell's district. Out of the total number of 3072 visits made by me, 1521 were made in connection with these cases. So, from that, it can be judged how much of my time is taken up with "lecturing" those mothers who do not keep the children clean. Repeated visits have to be made, and pleasant visits they seldom are, because the condition of the children is generally a reflex of the homes they come from. It is impossible that the children can grow up healthy amidst such surroundings. Poverty is not always the reason for such a

state of affairs, because, side by side with a dirty house, I have found houses which were spotless, and where the income was no larger than in the dirty houses.

Four hundred and eight cases of defective eyesight were reported to me, and in all cases I visited the parents or guardians, and gave the necessary advice. Here, as in all other cases, people are glad of advice, but they do not always act up to it. From the doctors' reports, it will be seen exactly how often treatment followed advice.

In some cases where medical treatment was required because of enlarged tonsils, etc., a measure of success attended the advice given, but parents are very often averse to such operations, and in any case take generally a long time to make up their minds.

My visits have been generally well received, and many parents expressed themselves as thankful. I believe that in many cases where medical treatment is necessary the advice would be quickly acted on, but the parents are so poor that they dread a doctor's bill.

May I again take the opportunity of thanking the headmasters and teachers for many kindnesses received and help given to me in my work.

The following table details the cases in the three districts :—

Medical Inspector.	No. of children reported	No. of visits	No. of conditions reported	No. of cases of defective vision	No. of cases with disease of nose throat, ear or mouth	No. of cases of dirt and vermin	Various defects and diseases
Dr. Gardner	611	1426	651	152	115	174	210
Dr. Findlay	602	866	648	230	180	156	82
Dr. Prangnell	245	780	265	26	86	135	18
Total	1458	3072	1564	408	381	465	310

REPORT BY NURSE MACKENZIE.

I have much pleasure in submitting my first Report as School Nurse, dating from the time of my appointment, 2nd March to 31st July, 1914.

My district is confined to the following areas :—Balfron, Buchanan, Denny, Dunipace, Drymen, Grangemouth, Falkirk (Landward), Killearn, Kilsyth (Burgh), Kilsyth (Landward), Logie, and Slamannan. I also assist in eye work in Falkirk (Burgh) and Larbert. This means that I am largely following-up Dr. Findlay's cases, with cases arising in Denny, Dunipace and Logie, which are in Dr. Gardner's area. Some of these are rather scattered districts, and in consequence considerable time is sometimes spent in travelling, thus curtailing the number of visits per day. In towns, however, where there are large schools, a large number of visits per day can be overtaken.

Number of Visits Paid.—During these four months I have paid a total of 1078 visits—110 in Dr. Gardner's, and 968 in Dr. Findlay's district. Of these 252 were in connection with dirty and verminous cases. 163 suffered from defective vision, in addition to the cases of defective vision visited under the Falkirk and District Medical Committee. 217 cases had diseases affecting the throat, nose, ears or mouth, and 132 were visited because of various other defects and diseases.

The statistics are as follows :—

Medical Inspector.	No. of children reported, including some already reported to Nurse Gibson	No. of visits	No. of conditions reported	No. of cases of defective vision	No. of cases with disease of nose, throat, ear or mouth	No. of cases of dirt and vermin	Various defects and diseases
Dr. Gardner	87	110	91	17	22	25	27
Dr. Findlay	607	968	673	146	195	227	105
Total	694	1078	764	163	217	252	132

Eye Work.—In addition to the ordinary routine inspection work, part of my time was spent working under the Joint

Medical Treatment Committee, comprising members from the School Boards of Falkirk (Burgh), Falkirk (Landward), Larbert, Grangemouth, Airth, Denny and Dunipace. In connection with this special work I have made a total of 399 visits—130 at the time of the Oculist's last visit in June, and 269 at his visit in December, 1913, and January, 1914. Altogether, 277 cases were examined by Dr. Gilchrist (201 at his first visit and 76 at his last visit), 233 having got spectacles and 44 having been treated for external eye disease.

In these visits the children are prepared for the specialist's examination, and mothers are instructed as to the treatment necessary before the specialist's visit. One day a week is wholly occupied assisting the specialist at the clinic, the other days are spent in preparing and following up the cases. The following small table details the eye cases :—

TABLE OF EYE WORK.

Medical Inspector.	No. of Cases	No. of Visits
Dr. Gardner	95	131
Dr. Findlay.	87	101
Dr. Prangnell.	95	167
Total	277	399

In the visitation of homes, I have pleasure in stating that I found the mothers eager for advice and anxious to co-operate with the Doctors and Nurses for the welfare and benefit of the children. In practically all cases I was well received in the homes.

I should like to emphasize in this report how invaluable is the assistance and courtesy extended to me at all times by the headmasters and teachers in the various schools in my district.

